

The fine art of collecting Arabian horses

Arabian horses are beautiful animals and collectors items. The Arabian is prized both by the Bedouin in the harshest of climates and by the high and mighty, or the rich and famous.

By Christian Powell
Special to The Star

LONDON - His Majesty King Hussein, singer Wayne Newton, oil billionaire Armand Hammer and designer Paolo Gucci have one thing in common: they are all avid collectors of Arabian horses; unquestionably the oldest and purest breed of horses in the world and for decades a prestige symbol associated with the rich and famous.

Two thousand years ago the tribesmen of the Arabian peninsula treasured their horses for their hardiness, stamina and intelligence and as effective war machines. While their camels were heavy transport, goats and sheep their milk and meat, the Arabian horses were in the forefront of battle.

As far back as the Crusades, Europeans realised the true worth of the Arabian when Saladin's cavalry of lightly armoured Arabians danced rings around the Knights of Christendom, galloping at 10 miles an hour in hit-and-run attacks on the crusaders' lumbering carthorses.

And while the Arabians no longer go to war on the battlefield, they continue to slug it out in the show ring and on the race course where a truly prized horse can be worth as much as a million dollars.

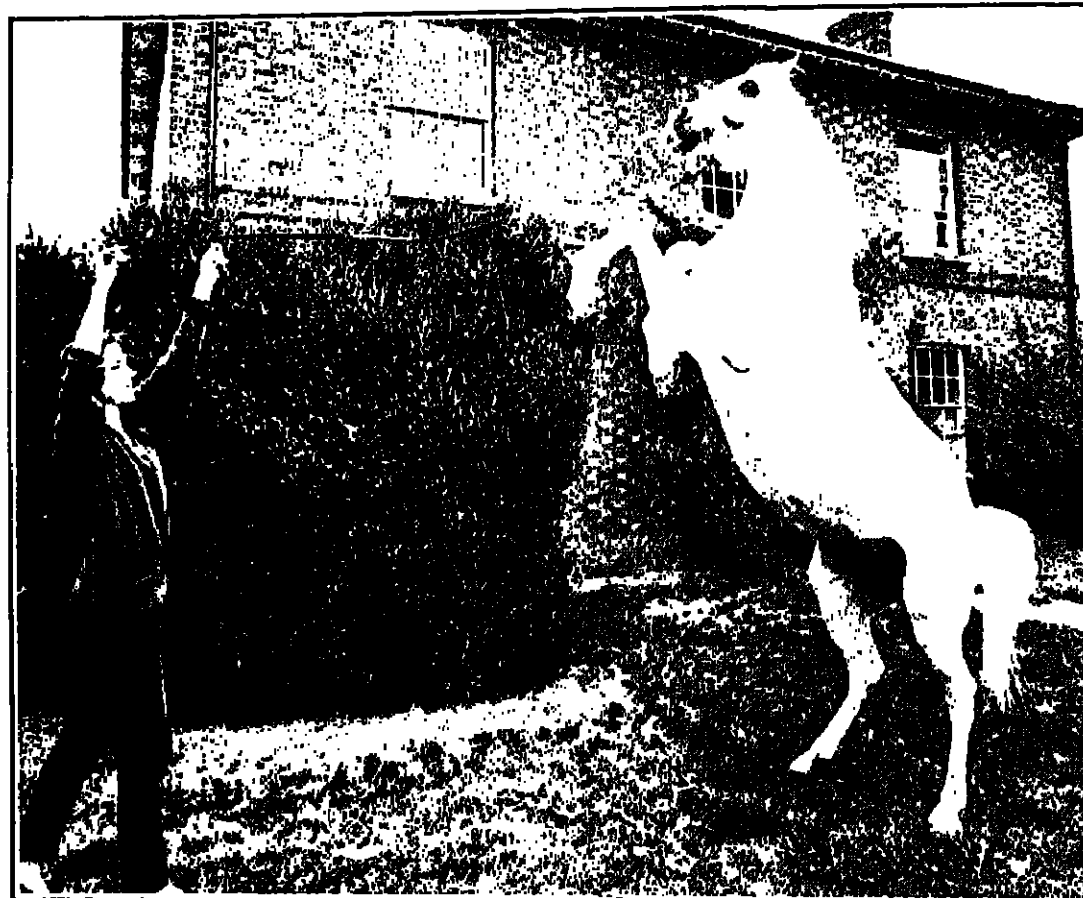
"You must realise that Arabians are very special. Quite apart from their extraordinary beauty they are extremely intelligent. They can read your mind. Many people don't like them simply because they are too smart."

Major Patrick Maxwell speaking. And he should know. Since the early 1960s he and his wife Joanna have run the Lodge Farm Arabian Stud. What started as a hobby is now a successful business unmatched anywhere in Britain or Europe.

Their headquarters is a charming redbrick Georgian farmhouse on the outskirts of the Oxfordshire village of Sundhampton. Behind are the stables which are home to over 80 Arabian horses, several of them current or past British, European and world champions. Their 19-year-old daughter, Emma, is helping to literally lead them to victory.

In Paris last December Emma showed their 12-year-old white mare, Alish, at the prestigious international championships and walked off with the top prize, a solid gold brow band presented by the Emir of Bahrain.

The Maxwells have sold to collectors in 22 different countries. Prices vary from a few hundred pounds to several thousand. Last year a brood mare went for almost \$300,000 to a South American who then invited the family out to Brazil to advise on creating his own stud. Another Arabian went to King Hussein and, very significantly, Maxwell says, one to a Soviet



Emma Maxwell during the training of an Arabian horse

stud, the first such sale from the West in 50 years.

The Soviets, like the Poles before them, have been systematically building up their Arabian studs since the last war when they made off with the best of the Polish horses and took them home to the Caucasus. The Poles were incensed, having maintained a carefully controlled breeding programme since the early 18th century to provide horses for their cavalry units.

In the past four years, sales of Arabians have slumped, particularly in the United States where the market is largely domestic and it is more common for horses to be sold at auction. A British stud owner who did not want to be identified said price rigging was common. A sale price of perhaps \$100,000 would be agreed between buyer and seller. But at the auction itself the animal would get a bid price of \$190,000. This has led to artificially high prices and a subsequent drop in sales, aggravated by a change in the tax laws which no longer sees horses as deductible items.

The Maxwells cite 1985 as a good export year. British studs exported more than 200 overseas, a hundred of which went to the Middle East. In 1987 they sold 30 to overseas buyers. So far this year the figure overall is a modest 50.

Despite competition from studs in the United States, France, Spain, Poland and Australia, British breeders of the unique Arabians still lead the field.

Patrick Maxwell says it's a mix of trust and historical links.

For a start the Arabs are used to dealing with the British and the trust comes from knowing that British-bred horses have been thoroughly checked by the Arab Horse Society and are on the National Register, the Arabian Horses 'Debreit'.

The Arab Horse Society was founded in 1918 with the object of promoting the breeding and importation of pure breed Arabians. It is the 'godfather' to British stud owners, helping to organise annual shows, events and race meetings as well as dispense advice on equine matters. The society's patron is Princess Michael of Kent, herself an enthusiastic horsewoman.

There was hardly a week gone by last summer when the major studs had been visited by potential buyers, many from the Gulf States. And if the buyers don't always go to the breeders, then the breeders go to the buyers. During the state visit of the Emir of Dubai, Queen Elizabeth invited a handful of top studs to show off their Arabians in the Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace. If the Emir, who like the Queen has his own collection of Arabians, decided to add to it, no one is saying.

There are still a few diehard enthusiasts who insist that if it had not been for the British the Arabian horse would have become extinct. They cite the adventures of William Scawen Blunt and his wife, Lady Anne Blunt, who travelled extensively across Arabia in search of horses of impeccable lineage. It was from these that they started the famed Crabbet stud in the late 19th century.

It's claimed that half the horses registered in the United States last year were bred from stock that originated with the Crabbet stud. Clive Simpson Gee of the Arabian Horse Society says the Blunts intended using the Arabians to help improve the British thoroughbred which was in a state of decline - a move which was to have a profound effect on the history of the thoroughbred, which word, incidentally, is a direct translation of the Arabic 'kohellan'.

Until the advent of the modern thoroughbred the Arabian was the fastest, of any breed of horse. But because it is slower, Arabians and mixed breed Anglo-Arabs have their own race meetings, around 15 every year in the UK.

The top ones are sponsored by the Maktoum family of Dubai who through their keen interest in racing and breeding have become the unquestioned leaders of British racing. Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum, owner of Derby winner Nashwan, saw his favourite four-year-old Arabian chestnut stallion 'Wascel' placed first and second at Kempton Park race-track recently.

It doesn't cost much to race an Arabian. For one thing the races are amateur, a situation reflected by the low prize money; usually not more than 200 pounds for a first place. Second, an owner can train and race the horse himself. Though it might be more correct here to say herself since many of the competing riders are women.

Sarah Hallam of the Arab Horse Society helps organise the race meetings and testifies to the

enthusiasm. At the Kempton Park meeting in September there were 80 entries for one race alone which meant having a ballot.

"The safety factor is about 22 horses in a race," Hallam says. "When we are oversubscribed we try to be fair but it's usually those with a proven record who get out to the start-line."

"Racing Arabians and showing them do not go together. In the ring the horse must be immaculate. No scars. No bruises. Everything perfect."

The Maxwells do not race. They show. Or rather Emma Maxwell does. Dressed in traditional Arab dress and wearing her grandmother's heirloom Palestinian headscarf fringed with heavy silver coins, she walks her entries around the showings of Britain and Europe displaying the fine points which make the Arabian unique. The high arched neck, large luminous eyes, dished profile with its shapely muzzle. Then there are the chiselled legs, fine skin, silky hair and the tail which rises in a graceful arc when the horse is alert or interested.

The drawing room at Lodge Farm is crowded with trophies. Joanna Maxwell says modestly that she "wasn't quite sure how many we have" since winners don't always get a replica cup and have to hand back their trophies after a year. But "there was quite a bit of silver last year."

The family clocks up several thousand miles a year. Recently they returned from Australia where they adjudicated in the Tobis Cup, a sort of outback rally for all kinds of horses from the humblest hack to the best thoroughbred. Competitors race across one hundred miles of scrubby desert, at one point climbing over an 8,000 foot pass.

"The Arabians win every year," says Maxwell trying not to sound smug. "They really are far superior to any other horse when it comes to long hauls."

Owners of Arabians are usually reluctant to part with their favourites. They are, to put it simply, devoted to each other. The Arabian is like a dog, according to Maxwell. Indeed it is the closest domestic animal, he claims. The Bedouin have a phrase 'mare' meaning a mare of particular good temperament. It is the mares who made the war-horses too, being both obedient and aggressive.

Have the Maxwells ever refused to sell a horse? "The answer is yes," says Maxwell. "I've cleared his throat and he's somewhat defensive. I don't do get rather fond of them and we have been known to hide them away when they come round. But business."

The Star

Is Fully Produced On
Apple Macintosh Computer
Apple Computer

The Star

Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

Amman, 22-28 February 1990

اسبوعية سياسية مستقلة

Vol: 1 No: 6



Strike or sit-in?

Bank employees walk out

page 4



CONGRATULATIONS ARAB BANK

WITH ALL ITS BRANCHES

Presents sincere congratulations and best wishes to His Majesty King Hussein on the occasion of the Prophetic Ascension.

May God grant Your Majesty and the Arab and Islamic nations further prosperity and success in the years to come.



Summit of hope

One year has elapsed since the ACC was formed in Baghdad. This week the fourth meeting of the leaders of the Council will take place in Amman. See stories inside.

Jordan, Kuwait urge unified Arab stand on world developments

AMMAN (Star) - Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah left Amman Tuesday after a three-day visit to the Kingdom during which he delivered a message to His Majesty King Hussein from the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and met with Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

Sheik Al Sabah was received by King Hussein at Al Nadwa Palace on Monday in the presence of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Chief of the Royal Court Sherif

Zaid ben Shaker.

The meeting called for maintaining co-ordination among Arab leaders at the highest possible level in light of the recent developments in the Arab and international arenas.

King Hussein said he appreciated the role Kuwait plays in enhancing consultations among Arab leaders to reach a unified stand vis-a-vis world developments.

In a statement to Jordan News Agency (Petra) on Monday, Sheikh Al Sabah called on Arab countries to review their relations with the superpowers and Eastern Europe because of the influx of Soviet Jews to Israel.



King Hussein Monday receives Sheikh Al Sabah

He warned that the Soviet Jews immigration to Israel poses a danger not only to Jordan but also to the rest of the Arab world.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran on Tuesday received in his office Sheikh Al Sabah and the

accompanying delegation in the presence of Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

Badran and Al Sabah reviewed the bilateral relations between Jordan and Kuwait.

On the record

By Ahmad Shaker

● Minister of Education Dr Mohammad Hamdan has agreed to re-instate 26 male and female teachers who were dismissed from the ministry for political reasons. Another 18 teachers whose applications for work at the ministry were rejected for security reasons have also been employed.

● Students of three community colleges in Irbid have sent memoranda to their deans asking them to inform the concerned authorities of their wishes to set up a national students union for community colleges students in The Kingdom.

● Former undersecretary of the Ministry of Supply Mr Abdullah Al Hawandeh was arrested on Sunday on charges of using his official position to achieve personal gains.

● Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr Butros Ghali, has denied news reports that Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel were passing through Egypt.

● Social Security Corporation Director General Mr Mahdi Al Farhan held talks on Tuesday with the President of Jordanian Press Association (JPA) Mr Hashem Khreikat on the issue of financing a JPA housing project. Mr Farhan said the corporation would provide all the necessary facilities to the project.

Focus on Parliament

By Ahmad Al Husban

● The National bloc at the House decided to hold a weekly meeting every Wednesday and appointed Dr Abdullah Nsour as its spokesman.

● Dr Abdullah Al Aqlleh presented Prime Minister Mudar Badran with a programme for replacing the current economic system with a new one based on Islamic economy. Members of the Muslim bloc were not aware of the programme.

● Members of Muslim bloc have set up a new office that would give consultancy services to the members of the House, and receive citizens and discuss their problems.

● The current ordinary session of Parliament will end on 27 March.

● Thirteen deputies demanded a vote of no confidence in the Minister of Supply, and other 13 deputies demanded a similar vote in the Minister of Education. The deputies retracted what they discovered that they violated the constitution by demanding a session to discuss the policies of the two ministries and a vote of no confidence at the same time, which indicates that they have already decided to vote of no confidence in the two ministers. That is considered a constitutional violation.

Fourth ACC summit opens Saturday

Arab leaders to discuss achievements, future challenges

By Ahmad Shaker
Special to The Star

AMMAN - The Fourth summit meeting of the leaders of the four-member Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) will be held in Amman Saturday, 22 February, marking the first anniversary of the ACC, which was formed in Baghdad on 16 February 1989.

Presidents Husni Mubarak of Egypt, Saddam Hussain of Iraq and Mohammad Ali Saleh of North Yemen will begin to arrive Friday, and Saturday morning to attend the two-day summit. The opening session will take place at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) Saturday afternoon.

President Saddam Hussain will deliver a speech on the occasion of the end of his term as President of the Council, which will be assumed by His Majesty King Hussein for the next year. King Hussein is also expected to deliver an important speech in which he will review the ACC's achievements in its first year and the dangers and challenges confronting the region. A special emphasis will be given to the issue of the immigration of Soviet Jews to the occupied territories and the effects it has on the demographic balance in those territories. Also, the Israeli threats of going ahead with the "Greater Israel" scheme and the prospects of peace in the Middle East will be given additional emphasis by His Majesty.

After the opening session, the



Leaders of the ACC: Facing up to the challenges

four Arab leaders will hold closed meetings, of which some will be attended by the accompanying delegations. These closed meetings will take place at Al-Hashimiya Palace, 20 kilometres west of Amman.

Jordan television and radio and all electronic media of the ACC countries will give live transmission of the events of the opening session.

ACC Secretary General Dr Hilmi Nammar told The Star that the agenda of the fourth

summit meeting of the heads of the ACC countries will include ratifying 11 agreements approved by the Council's Higher Ministerial Committee which is composed of the prime ministers of the four countries, adopting practical measures in various economic fields to facilitate transport, and investments among the countries of the ACC, drafting a working plan for the ACC for this year, reviewing the latest developments in the Palestinian issue and the Intifada and the

peace initiative proposed by Iraqi President Saddam Hussain concerning the Iraq-Iran conflict. The four leaders, according to Dr Nammar, will also discuss latest developments concerning the stalled negotiations between Iraq and Iran.

Lebanon, Jewish immigration to Israel and the recent changes in Eastern Europe will also feature on the leaders' agenda. The ACC leaders are expected to adopt a unified position on these changes and will call for improv-

ing relations with East European countries in all areas. Dr Nammar said the agenda will be open-ended and that ACC foreign ministers may agree to include additional issues after their meeting in Amman Friday evening.

The Star was told that Palestinian President Yasser Arafat may attend part of the four leaders' deliberations, or that a message from the Palestinian leadership presenting Palestinian views on issues related to the occupied territories and the dangers to peace in the region, will be sent to the summit.

Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister Mr Marwan Al Qasem told The Star that the Amman Summit will be an occasion to evaluate the progress of the ACC in one year and will give the leaders a chance to discuss latest developments in the regional and international scenes. Mr Al Qasem said citizens of the four countries of the council will begin to see the benefits of the ACC soon.

The closing session of the council will also be held at the RCC. A press conference will be held by King Hussein later on at the Press Centre.

Envoys from Lebanon, Sudan and Eritrea are expected to arrive during the summit to deliver messages to the leaders of the ACC. More than 200 Arab and foreign journalists are expected to cover the summit.

ADC to send delegation to Moscow to meet with Jews

AMMAN (Star) - Arab-Americans are launching a campaign in the United States in an effort to curtail Soviet Jewish immigration into the occupied Palestinian areas.

Former US Senator Mr James Abourezk who heads the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) in the United States, has said that he has sent letters to members of the US Congress informing them that the settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories would make it "politically impossible for the Israeli government to exchange land for peace."

Mr Abourezk, who was in a short visit to Jordan to meet with members of the ADC Jordan Chapter, said in a press conference Monday that a delegation of Arab-Jordanians, said in a press conference Monday that a delegation of Arab-Americans, Palestinian deportees and ADC officials will visit Moscow soon to meet with Soviet officials and heads of Jewish community to explain the effects of the current waves of emigration and to convince them not to allow immigrants to move from Israel into the West Bank and Gaza Strip

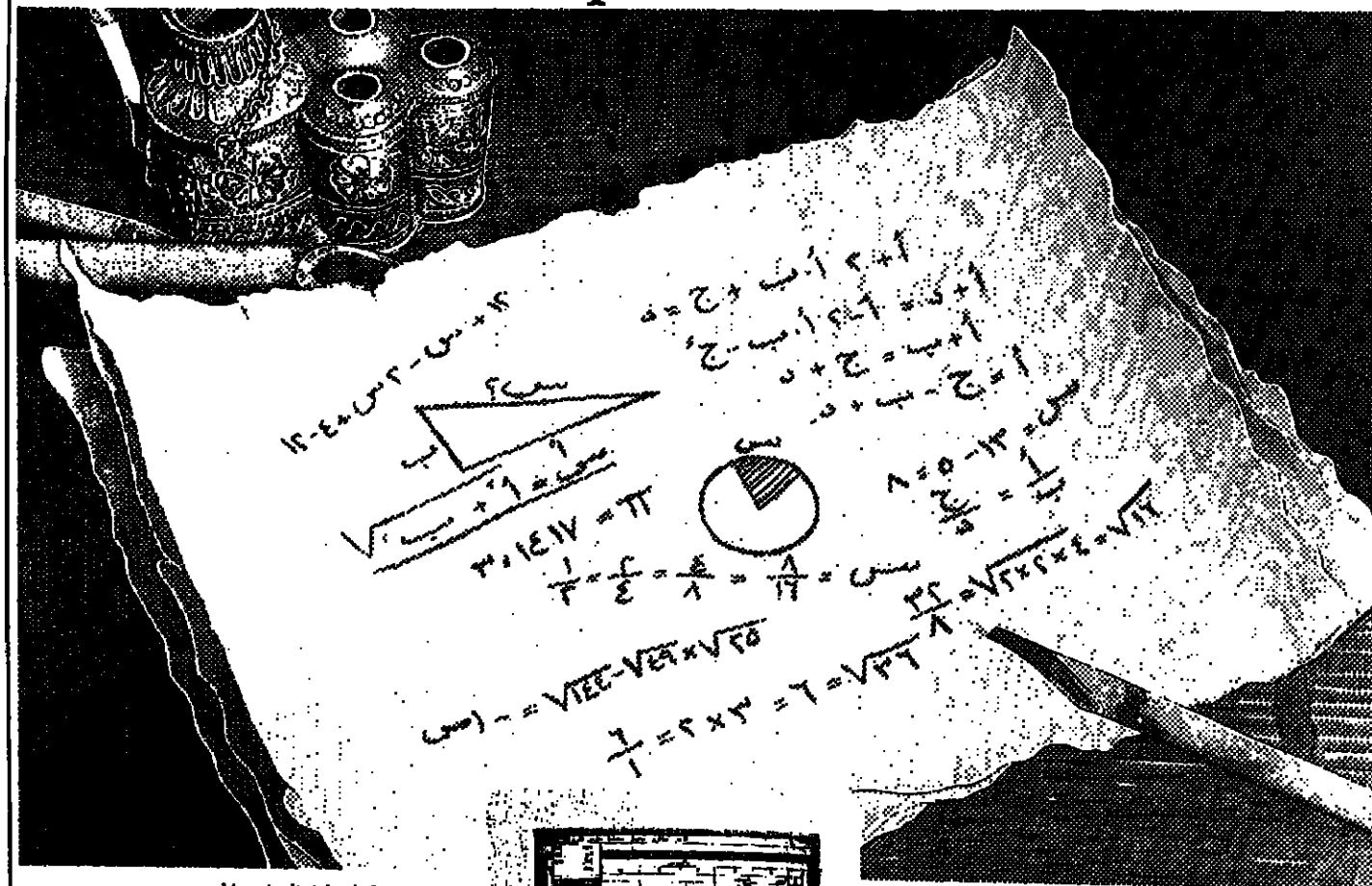
occupied by Israel.

In an interview with Jordan Television this week Mr Abourezk said that he was convinced that the majority of Soviet Jews are not aware of the realities inside Israel and the occupied territories. He said that most of the Jewish immigrants prefer to travel to the West, namely the United States. But this has become extremely difficult after the United States has imposed a quota ceiling on Jews coming from the Soviet Union.

Mr Abourezk said he does not think that US aid to Israel will be cut in the near future, but he also called for a campaign of awareness in the United States. He added that ADC was trying, along with some Jewish organizations, to raise the quota ceiling on Soviet immigration to the United States.

The former Senator will be returning to Amman early next month after visiting Gulf countries in a fund-raising tour. He said he will be discussing with the ADC Jordan Chapter the possibility of Jordanians joining the delegation that will visit the Soviet Union.

Discover your potential with the power to create.



Most individuals have within them the source of creativity. Centuries ago, Al Khawarizmi's creativity manifested itself in his contributions to algebra which pioneered today's sophisticated systems.

To tap the tremendous potential that lies dormant within us, requires power.

Today, Apple Macintosh™ provides you with that power. Through modern, state-of-the-art tools that are beautifully simple to use and indispensable once mastered. Personal computers

that stimulate you into discovering your own latent creativity, developing it into a fine art, and using it to increase your company's productivity.

Whether desktop or portable, Apple's personal computer works in the same way with dozens of Arabic applications at your fingertips. To learn one is to learn them all.

Take the Apple step towards individual innovative brilliance - you'll find your own creativity starting a dynamic chain reaction that spans your entire work environment.

Apple. The power to be your best.™



Apple Systems, P.O. Box 18754, Amman, Jordan. Tel: 676175/683193, Fax: 672176



BUSTER BROWN
CLOTHES & SOCKS FOR KIDS

YOUR KIDS GROW YOUNGER

WITH **BUSTER BROWN**

1990 COLLECTION

AT

AL WAHA STORES & SAFEWAY INTERNATIONAL

Dispute between Petra Bank, JBIEA reaches a climax Association to demand resignation of Management Committee

AMMAN (Star) - The dispute between Jordan Banking and Insurance Employees Association (JBIEA) and the government-appointed Management Committee of Petra Bank over improving the working conditions of the bank employees reached its climax Tuesday when the JBIEA staged a sit-in in front of the bank's headquarters after negotiation between the two sides reached a deadlock.

The sit-in, in which around 500 employees of the bank, in addition to supporters from other workers associations participated, continued on Wednesday and "would go on until the bank's management meets the demands at the JBIEA," according to its president Mr. Rashid Rashid.

The JBIEA called for its first ever sit-in on Monday despite a warning by the Minister of Labour Dr. Qasem Obaidat that such an act was illegal and "members of the Association Council would be held responsible for all its consequences."

The JBIEA, which refused to receive the memorandum of the Labour Minister said that there was nothing in the Jordanian law that forbids them from staging the sit-in.

It called for the strike on Monday after it became "convinced that the bank's management was stalling in responding to the demands of the Association."

The 1000-member Association requested all Petra Bank employees in Amman to participate in what it referred to as a "protest," by joining in the sit-in in front of the bank's headquarters in Wadi Sagra Street. Bank's employees in other areas of the Kingdom were requested to refrain from work.

The JBIEA, which is staging the sit-in under the banner of "protecting Petra Bank, and fulfilling the rights of its employees" also called on all other workers associations and professional unions to support them in "the struggle for obtaining their rights." It says it has the support of all these unions.

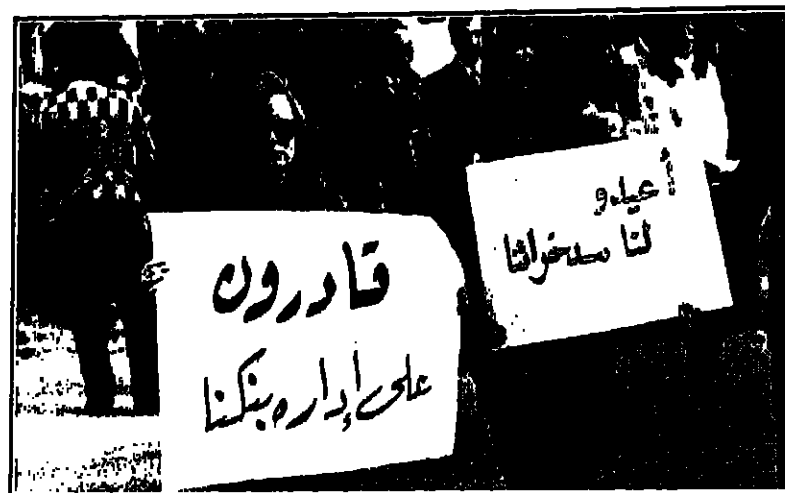
During the sit-in on Tuesday, JBIEA President Mr. Rashid called on the General Union of Workers' Associations "to play an active role in defending the workers' rights in general and those of Petra Bank's employees in particular."

The Association mainly demands an increase in the employees' salaries, management reform, and better working conditions.

Mr. Rashid threatened at a press conference at the poorly furnished Association headquarters on Tuesday evening that the sit-in will escalate to demand the resignation of the management committee, if their demands are not immediately and fully met.

He charged that the committee proved to be incapable of seeing the bank through its crisis, and accused it of hurting the bank's reputation and slandering its employees.

He was referring to a statement by the Management Committee Deputy Chairman Dr. Jawad Al Anani in which he said that one of the bank's female employees played a role in conducting an illegal operation at the bank before the committee resumed the responsibility of running the bank's affairs, following a decision by the Economic Security Committee, operating under martial laws, to dissolve the



Petra Bank employees: A sit-in or a strike?



indirectly approached the Association on Tuesday asking it to go back to the negotiation table, but the JBIEA did not respond.

Member of the JBIEA council, Mr. Youssef Al Horani told The Star that the association will not go back to the negotiations before it receives a signed statement from the committee saying that it accepted all their demands.

He said that such an agreement was reached at a meeting at the Ministry of Labour on Thursday 15 February when the bank's Management Committee agreed to a compromise proposal made by the Minister of Labour.

Hourani said the Management Committee "asked the JBIEA negotiating team, (of which he is a member) to draft the agreement" and the two sides set Sunday 18 February as a date for signing the agreement.

However, he said, the committee apologised from attending Sunday's meeting and asked for more time to study the matter. "We considered this to be an attempt by the committee to waste time, and accordingly went on with our plans to stage the sit-in," he said.

Hourani and Rashid accused the bank's Management Committee of trying to by-pass the Association, citing as a proof of this a decision by the committee to raise the salaries of the bank's staff without consulting the Association.

The Committee on Sunday held a meeting, partly attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, and decided to give a one to 15 per cent increase of salaries to the employees. It later distributed a circular among the employees asking them "not to participate in the sit-in as there was no reason for it any more."

"The Committee has no right to address the employees directly because we represent them, and such acts might influence the staff," Mr. Hourani said.

The Management Committee said that no agreement was reached between the bank and

the Association during the Thursday 15 February meeting. It said both sides agreed on certain points but failed to settle the issue of the salary increases. In a statement distributed to the press on Tuesday, the Management Committee said that the association insisted that the bank grant its employees salary increments amounting to JD one million. The bank said it could not meet such a demand and offered instead to work on a salary scale that would be beneficial to all employees. The Committee asked for someone to study the matter but the Association persisted in holding another meeting on Sunday. The statement said the Committee asked for postponing the Sunday 18 February meeting on Saturday because it didn't finish its consultations but the Association refused to postpone the meeting and declared the strike on Monday.

Meanwhile, no solution seemed to be possible for the dispute on Tuesday and Wednesday as both parties stood firm on their positions.

Mr. Asfour said the bank "has given the employees everything it could" confirming that there will be no other concessions on their part.

He said that the bank has responded to 80 per cent of the JBIEA demands, and that this should have been appreciated by the Association in light of the difficult circumstances in which the bank is operating.

He said that 234 employees whose salaries were less than JD 100 received an increment of JD 15, 231 employees with salaries between JD 101-150 received a raise of JD 12, ninety-one employees whose salaries range between JD 151-200 have been given a raise of JD 8, while 115 staff members, with salaries between JD 201-500 received an increment of JD 5, and 17 employees whose salaries are above JD 500 were given no increments.

In addition to that, according to Mr. Asfour, the Committee, in co-operation with the bank staff, worked out a salary scale for the employees, and willingly accepted to compensate its staff for the losses incurred by the Savings Fund which amount to JD 700,000.

Mr. Asfour still believed that negotiations will be the best venue for solving the problem, but the JBIEA views such negotiations as futile.

Dr. Anani questioned the motives of the JBIEA saying that the Association "should have gone through the negotiation process to the end before starting the strike."

He said the JBIEA "should have gone to an arbitration committee and then to industrial tribunal to solve the dispute before staging the strike. Also, according to Dr. Anani, the Association should have given the bank a 15-day notice as the labour law stipulates.

6000 engineers go to the polls on Friday Greens and Whites expected to run neck to neck

By Jamal Alawi
Special to The Star



Engineers elections: An important litmus test

JORDAN'S ENGINEERS Association's (JEA) elections, which will take place tomorrow, Friday, has already attracted the general public's attention since this will be the first major election to be held in Jordan's post democracy era.

Observers see the JEA election as an indicator of the effectiveness and strength of Jordan's various political movements in professional associations after the Islamists success in the Jordanian parliamentary elections, which were held last November.

The success of the Islamic trend has forced the so-called leftist movements to regroup in preparation for the engineers elections. The political alliance which includes Fatah, the Popular Front, the Communist Party, the Salah Jadid movement and some independent candidates have all rallied under one banner, the Green List.

The Communist Party's proposal to allocate one seat in the bloc to each political trend was supported by all of these groups except for the Democratic Front - Jordan's Wing, which insisted that it takes the seat of the president of the Association.

Accordingly, the active parties of the Green List decided to exclude the Democratic Front from their list of candidates for the elections which is headed by Is-

mail Baryoosh.

In reaction to this decision the Democratic Front issued a statement in which it called for "giving the chance to a broad base of professionals and not confine union work to political activists alone."

Still the Green List persisted and went ahead with its list of candidates as follows: Ismail Baryoosh, president; Fathi Hyassat, deputy; Khalid Ramadan, Yasin Al-Tarawneh, Abdul Latif Al-Hadid, Mousa Ma'ita, Moham-

mad Nazal, Mazen Royal and Ghassan Abdul Majid, members of the Association's board.

Although the Green List is highly politicised, the different groups involved agreed to give the posts of president, deputy president and two board seats to independent candidates described within the Association as "Independent Nationalists."

Dr. Saleh Irshaidat, who announced his candidacy very early in the race, has decided to withdraw under the pressure of

many activists within the Association to preserve the unity of the Green List, according to Association sources. He is said to have been chosen as the List's main candidate for future elections.

The second bloc, called the White List, includes religious trends and a number of independent candidates. The groups had decided on their candidates at an earlier date. The list, which is headed by Ahmad Al Kilani, is supported by the outgoing Association President Deputy Leith

Shbeilat. Mr. Shbeilat withdrew from the elections after his proposal to "float the post of president as was the case in the previous session, was rejected by political activists."

The White List is comprised of Husni Abu Ghaida, deputy and Mohammad Zuhair Al Kaseih, Bashira Al Jaghbeer, Jamal Al-Shakshir, Mohammad Issam Asha, Ahmad Atwan and Mohammad Abu Taha as members of the board.

Friday's elections are expected to surprise most observers since most traditional candidates like Ibrahim Abu Ayash, Leith Shbeilat, Aouni Al-Saket, Osama Anani, Mohammad Kheir Kilani and Michel Msanat are not contesting elections.

Both lists are expected to run neck to neck at the ballot box with no wide gap of votes between the president and his deputy as was the case in the last election when Mr. Shbeilat won 3000 votes, Mr. Kilani around 1100 votes and Mr. Taj-iddin Nusseibeh only 300 votes.

More than 6000 engineers are expected to vote on Friday out of 9000 eligible for voting, while the number of engineers registered with the Association is estimated at 23,000.

Observers are particularly interested in seeing if Mr. Shbeilat will be able to get Mr. Kilani the president's post, despite the strong competition he faces from the Green List's candidate Mr. Baryoosh.

Deeb calls for lifting the JD 10 tax on live sheep, measure would help importers provide low-priced meat locally

By Pam Dougherty
Special to The Star



Muhammad Deeb

"I am sure free and fair competition between importers and merchants is the best guarantee of a continuous flow of consumer goods, and especially foods, at the lowest prices possible," says Jordanian Food Importers Association Deputy Chairman Muhammad Deeb. And just now Mr. Deeb is particularly keen to see this "free and fair competition" applied in the area of meat imports.

Jordan has faced a shortage of meat since Rumania and Bulgaria, the main suppliers of chilled meat, cut their exports in late 1989 in order to boost supplies on their home markets. Bulgarian exports to Jordan are now down to 40-80 tonnes per week while all Rumanian supplies have been halted.

Mr. Deeb says the association has a solution to the shortage which would guarantee regular supplies and would offer the extra benefits of saving on government meat subsidies and creating new business opportunities.

That solution, he says, is live sheep imports. If the government would lift the JD 10 per head tax now levied on live sheep imports, merchants could import one million animals annually. Allowing for 30 per cent profit to

spend \$45 million to put 24,000 tonnes of fresh meat in the market, JD 1.6 per kilo, also sell the offal for food and have wool, skin and fertilizer available for sale. Local handling and slaughtering of the animals and the processing of the wool and skins would also create a number of new jobs.

Mr. Deeb suggests that the JD 10 tax could be kept for lambs under a certain size if the Ministry felt it was necessary to protect local lamb producers. But he also believes that Jordanian need to rethink the way local lamb is sold saying "I am of the opinion that the time has come when we have to be realistic and to abandon the idea that the smaller the lamb the better meat you get." Consumers in other Arab states, including Syrians, Kuwaitis, Egyptians and Saudi Arabians, he says, have never believed that the best carcasses weigh only 6-7 kilos and Jordanians should also get used to buying meat of larger animals.

There could also be good benefits to local growers in selling their animals in the Gulf markets where consumers can afford to pay higher prices than Jordanians. The price of one animal sold in the Gulf or Saudi Arabia, he says, would cover the cost of three animals of similar size bought from foreign suppliers.



Will we ever have enough?

What the Association would most like to see, says its deputy chairman are different categories and weights of animals available in the market so that consumers can choose what they want. Importers are already going ahead with plans to import buffalo veal directly from India rather than via Malaysia as has been done in the past. Veal legs should be available on the market at around JD 1.3 per kilo. Deeb cites the buffalo veal imports as a good example of a new approach to

meat importing made necessary not only by the decline in traditional sources of supply but also by the decline in the value of the dinar which has priced many items out of the range of the average Jordanian.

If the Ministry of Supply would now agree to a lifting of the live sheep tax, he says, imports could begin within a month, drawing on supplies of Australian, New Zealand and Uruguayan sheep already available in the region.

Jordan Electricity Authority

Tender No. 52/89 for Gas Conditioning Plant and Pipeline Facilities
And Tender No. 53/89 For Supply of Two Generator Transformers

Jordan Electricity Authority announces the extension of closing date of tenders No. 52/89 & 53/89 to be before 10.00 a.m. Amman local time on Wednesday, May 16, 1990 instead of Saturday the 17th of March, 1990. Therefore, contractors who bought any of the above mentioned tender documents can obtain this addendum from the tenders section at JEA - main building (located between the 6th & 7th Circles - Jabal Amman).

The ACC: One year later

AMMAN (Star) - In one year of its existence the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) has managed to bring about 13 agreements covering a number of fields while 11 other agreements will be presented to the leaders of the four Arab member countries for ratification in the fourth summit meeting of the ACC, which will be held in Amman next week. These agreements are considered as the foundation of future co-operation among the countries.

The most important of these agreements are those concerned with easing the movement of labour and citizens of the four countries, Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen. The joint electric grid among Jordan, Egypt and Iraq is in its final stages while internal trade is expected to reach \$20 million in 1990. Negotiations are underway to lift tariffs on certain goods.

In addition to economic, social, cultural and scientific co-ordination the ACC countries have issued three important political communiqués reflecting the points of views of the four Arab leaderships on regional and local issues in order to put forward a common plan of action. These declarations were mainly concerned with the Palestinian problem, the Lebanese conflict, the Iraq-Iran conflict, the peace process and the Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel.

The Higher Committee and the Ministerial Committee in addition to the General Secretariat have worked jointly to co-ordinate work with Arab, regional and international organisations.

Two agreements between the ACC and the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development and the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development will be signed soon.

The Secretary General of ACC is in constant contact with the Arab League's Secretary General in order to co-ordinate joint action and execute the resolutions of the Arab League. In addition, the ACC Secretariat works closely with the United Nations development programmes.

The ACC's General Secretariat also has worked to create appropriate mechanisms to carry out the Council's agreements. Some of these agreements are:

Economic fields

The Economic Co-operation agreement is considered one of the most important achievements of the ACC since it aspires to fulfil the Council's objectives of economic complementarity, the diversification of industrial and agricultural bases and the creation of a common market among the member states.

The agreement covered most areas of economic co-operation mainly planning, agriculture, industry, transportation, investment policies, monetary and financial policies, trade exchange, balance of payment and technology transfer.

The Agricultural Co-operation Agreement seeks to achieve co-ordination and complementarity

in various agricultural activities in order to develop the agricultural sector through developing human potentials in scientific research, co-ordinating laws and standards, investing in available agricultural resources, reclamation of the desert and activating commercial exchange in the areas of insecticides and livestock.

Transportation and communications

In these areas a number of agreements have been signed aiming at increasing the potentials for economic complementarity. Among these agreements are the Ports and Maritime Agreement which seeks to ease the flow of freight among the member countries and providing necessary outlets for trade exchange and services to ships at various ports.

The Commercial and Maritime Transport agreement aims at organising relations among commercial fleets of member countries and opening a commercial and touristic sea route to transport people and freight.

It also calls for provision of spare parts, fuel and others in order to facilitate better sea lines.

The Railway Transport Agreement aims at connecting the four countries by rail, unifying standards and measurements and transport rates in addition to exchanging expertise in areas of maintenance and training and unifying customs regulations at border stations.

The Communications and Postal Service Agreement hopes to develop telecommunications and postal links among the ACC countries by increasing the number of available lines and unifying postal and telephone rates. It also calls for future co-ordination in the area of manufacturing equipment and improving courier services and giving priorities to national airlines and flag carriers.

Labour

In this area an agreement for co-operation between member countries has been signed aiming at organising labour markets and labour movement among the

member countries. It also organises labour contracts, permits and provides for better working conditions, transfer of remittances and calls for giving priority to nationals of members countries to work in any of the four countries after local labour.

The area of education and youth was organised through agreements calling for co-ordination to create joint educational industries and organise exchange of teachers and adopting standards in applying scientific and educational terminologies and equalising certificates. It also encourages scholarships for students to study in the ACC countries and abroad.

The agreement also calls for co-ordination in youth events and organising sports activities and camps.

Information and culture

The Information and Cultural co-operation agreement is based on the importance of information and culture and therefore it calls for deepening and developing joint co-operation among the member countries. The agreement covers the following areas:

General objectives summed up in working to adopt joint strategy in information and culture aiming at deepening the understanding of the charter of the ACC and its principles.

In radio and television the agreement calls for exchange of information, news and expertise. It also calls for increasing co-operation among local news agencies. As to general information policies, the agreement aims at adopting joint positions and organising festivals and participating in cultural activities worldwide. As to archaeological heritage the agreement calls for exchange of expertise and information and protecting archaeological sites. The agreement also calls for increasing co-operation among newspaper establishments, organising book fairs and art exhibitions.

Legal and Judicial

This agreement opens the way for practical co-operation among the member countries in legal and judicial arenas. It covers the legal rights of the citizens of the ACC countries in addition to safeguarding legal papers and documents as a first step towards unifying legal legislation.

Another agreement establishes co-operation in fighting illegal drug consumption and trade. It also calls for introducing laws to help drug addicts and rehabilitating them. It also deals with exchange of information and extradition of criminals.

In addition to these agreements a number of decisions have been issued by the Council among which was a decision to form an elected parliamentary committee from the legislative estates in the four countries. The committee held its first meeting in January.



The ACC leaders: Working for economic complementarity



ARAB BANK

Welcomes the leaders of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) may God bless their endeavors for a triumphant march leading the way towards a comprehensive Arab unity



ARAB BANK

Welcome to Jordan's Guests



Welcome President Husni Mubarak
President of the Arab Republic of Egypt

And His Brothers the Arab Leaders

President Saddam Hussein
President of the Republic of Iraq

President Ali Abdullah Saleh
President of the Arab Republic of Yemen

Guests of

His Majesty King Hussein

Great Hopes are Pinned on Your Summit Meeting
to Fulfil the Hopes and Aspirations of the Arab Nation

Wanted

Young, creative and ambitious writers. No experience necessary. English-language is essential. Applicants please write to:
The Editor, Writers, P O Box 9813,
Amman-Jordan.

22 FEBRUARY 1990

Our Say...

Jubilation and anxiety

THE FOURTH summit of the leaders of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) will convene next week in the midst of jubilation and apprehension. The more than 80 million inhabitants of the countries of the one-year-old Council must feel proud that the ACC has in a very short time taken a number of practical steps leading towards economic complementarity; one of the main objectives of its charter.

But as we express our pride of and happiness over the achievements of the ACC we look with great anxiety at the fast-changing political, economic and social realities around us. And as we look closely at these changes, we become more convinced of the necessity of joint Arab co-ordination at all levels of human activity.

Common interests in addition to similar cultural and economic backgrounds can only bring the Arabs in general and the four countries of the ACC in particular closer together. In recent months we have seen renewed efforts on the part of regional groups and superpowers to create economic and political blocs in preparation for the new order that is about to emerge as the 21st century dawns on us. Individual countries - especially developing and underdeveloped ones - stand little chance of safeguarding their modest gains in this new order.

It is with all of these realities in mind that we look upon the ACC as the perfect alternative to disunity, isolation and lack of political and economic will.

The task before the four leaders of the union meeting next week in Amman goes beyond marking the first anniversary of the ACC. It is a chance to look forward and forge a common plan for the future. With great potentials, the ACC countries have all the essential elements to deal with lurking challenges and threats to our region. But in order to exploit these elements ideally, the peoples of these four countries must be given the chance to participate in nation-building and in planning for tomorrow. At this stage we look at the role of the private sectors in the four countries, which must be activated and promoted.

Activating the role of the private sector essentially means enabling the average citizens to participate in the process of development. It also entails opening all channels of communication between the government and its people so that the responsibility for standing up to the challenges can be shared by all members of the society.

We welcome the fourth summit of the ACC in Amman next week. Again we are filled with jubilation and anxiety. Common action is not a rhetorical demand; it has become our only alternative for survival.



Letters to the editor

Help South Africa

To the Editor:

WHILE it is perfectly true that the change in South Africa can only be achieved internally, it is equally true that we can learn from the whole world. And that is what this letter is about.

Your readers can help South Africa by answering these questions:

- (1) As you personally understand the situation, how did South Africa find itself in the unique position of having its policy of apartheid?
- (2) What is your perception of life in South Africa today?
- (3) What advice would you give to (a) the present government and (b) the future government?

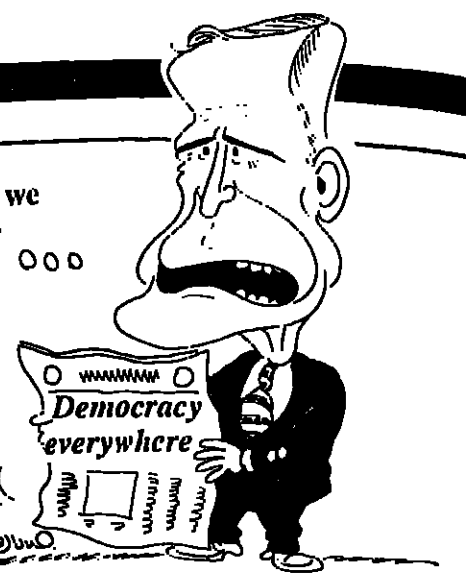
Now I am begging everybody reading this to answer. From the youngest reader, through youth and religious groups, exiles, students and academics, prisoners, factory workers, farmers, poets, famous personalities, old age pensioners - and do feel free to tell me more about yourself! Please we need the whole world's help here and now.

I promise to reply to every letter received. I will also forward the letters to our leaders, Nelson Mandela and the ANC, as well as to F.W. de Klerk, and anyone else interested.

Shona Abantu
103 Basilene Road
West Hounslow
TW4 7LX
London
United Kingdom

The Star

When all countries become democratic what excuse will we have to intervene in their affairs??



Postscript

by Osama El-Sherif

Jihad; American style

AT A time when key political figures in the United States continue to stereotype the Arabs as fanatics thriving on fundamentalist dogma, we in the Arab world continue to face these hostilities with an overwhelmingly apologetic behaviour. The fault, we seem to say, is partly ours. We are ashamed of those who dare propose ideological platforms, and, for some ambiguous reason, display signs of religious fundamentalism in a world that, we think, has left the crusade mentality behind. The moderates among us continue to offer political compromises based on international laws and human rights because they think that the West understands only this language, and rejects our religious zeal, radical thinking, and traditional mentality.

Well, we are wrong. Israel today rests its legitimacy on religious grounds. The minute you talk about Palestinian rights you are faced with quotations from the Torah which speaks of the "Eretz Israel" and the "Third Temple". Israeli politics is not dominated by rationalists who offer political defence of their policies, but by religious idealists who throw the Holy Book in your face whenever you attempt to resort to reason and diplomacy. Even if we say that religion is being used as a means to serve political ends, not many in the West, and in the United States in particular, would dare to come out and denounce these Israeli practices.

But this much we know about. What most of us are probably unaware of is the fact that Zionism's most staunch advocate in the United States is yet another fundamentalist movement that proudly calls itself Christian Zionism.

An important booklet entitled "What is Western Fundamentalist Christian Zionism," published by the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) refers to this phenomenon as "a new heresy and dangerous intrusion into the life of the people of the region."

What makes this movement exceptionally dangerous is the fact that it is now becoming an important political force in the US arena. In a nutshell, Christian Zionism uncritically supports Israel as it sees it as a fulfilment of Biblical prophecies. Christian Zionists believe, the booklet says, that God has called on them to "comfort and support Israel" unconditionally.

The most famous advocate of this notion is the notorious American priest Jerry Falwell of Lynchburg, Virginia, who is the founder of the fundamentalist political action group, Moral Majority. Falwell tells his followers that "anyone who truly believes in the Bible sees Christianity and the new state of Israel as inseparably connected. The re-formation of the state of Israel in 1948 is, for every Bible believing Christian, a fulfilment of Old Testament and New Testament prophecy."

The Evangelical Church in the United

States is divided into a number of wings, one of which is the fundamentalist wing representing over 25 per cent of American Evangelicals. Members of this wing are the most visible and are growing very rapidly since they have a monopoly on television and radio Evangelism. According to the MECC booklet, they are the fastest growing body in Western Christendom.

The birth of Israel was a landmark in the development of the so-called premillennialist doctrine, which believes in the literal explanation of God's gospel. In 1967, after the fall of Jerusalem to Israel's hands, Billy Graham, another leading figure in Christian Zionism, wrote: "That for the first time in more than 2000 years Jerusalem is now completely in the hands of the Jews gives a student of the Bible thrill and renewed faith in the accuracy and validity of the Bible."

The seventies accelerated the development of Christian Zionism in the United States as a political power. Indicative of this development are the coming to power of Menachem Begin in 1977 in Israel on a revisionist Zionist platform based on Biblical concepts, and the unholy alliance among conservative US politicians and businessmen, the fundamentalists and Israeli lobby, which used the fertile ground of over 60 million American Evangelicals. Also in 1976, Jimmy Carter, a home again Southern Baptist Sunday School teacher, became president of the United States. Most significantly, Carter was succeeded by a Christian Zionist, Mr Ronald Reagan, who appointed several cabinet members with premillennial dispensationalist views.

The first Christian Zionism Congress was held in Basel in Switzerland in August 1985 in the same hall where Theodore Herzl assembled the first Zionist Congress in 1897 to lay the foundation of Israel. From the resolutions these people adopted I chose the following: "...we call upon every Jew throughout the world to consider making aliyah to Israel and upon every Christian to encourage and support the Jewish friends..."

Today, Christian Zionists control American business; they are in the Congress, have great influence inside it and represent millions of fast-growing American followers. With such an attitude towards our region, we should not wonder so much about the US logic behind supporting Israel in every arena, facilitating the emigration of Soviet Jews and denying Palestinian rights. Such a dogmatic view of things warrants a similar reaction in the Arab and Muslim worlds. But it is not moderation in being stifled, but it is not completely our fault. Fanaticism breeds fanaticism. Israel and the United States are already ahead of us in reviving the sado-mentality in the region. It seems the call for the Holy War "Jihad" has been let out from America long before it began to be whispered in our afflicted region.

An independent political, economic and cultural weekly, published every Thursday in Amman in co-operation with Media Services International (Info-Media).
Editorial & Advertising: Fax & Telephone 648298, P.O. Box 9313, Amman - Jordan.
Typesetting, layout and processing - done exclusively on Apple Macintosh system using Desk top publishing software.

Opinion

Looking into the future

By Dr Labib Kamhawi

THE FORCES of change currently confronting the world political scene are not as abrupt and as sudden as they seem to be. The extent of recent changes in the USSR and the Eastern Bloc countries are examples of changes which seem to have caught many observers by surprise. The fact remains, however, that the forces of change have always been an inherent characteristic in all human societies.

Only natural phenomena seem to erupt with little or no warning at all. This does not normally apply to man made changes. For better or for worse, man has been famous for triggering the forces of change, be it, social, economic, technological or, indeed, political. Such changes normally take a violent venue. In such cases violence would generally correspond to the nature and volume of change required. The bigger the change, the more violent the process is likely to be. It is only under rare conditions that such changes could be realised through peaceful means, and attributed to a single factor.

What has happened in the USSR and the Eastern Bloc countries cannot be comprehended separately and in isolation from developments

which took place in the world during the past few decades. Such developments have often invited mixed reactions which ranged from approval to rejection, shock to expectancy, or amazement to apathy. However, such mixed feelings were basically due to the fact that most people treated each development or encountered it as a separate phenomenon and not as a part of a general trend which was bound to affect all aspects of life and the whole world as well. This situation would probably apply to ordinary individuals who are inclined to react to events rather than creating them or help create them or, otherwise, identify with them.

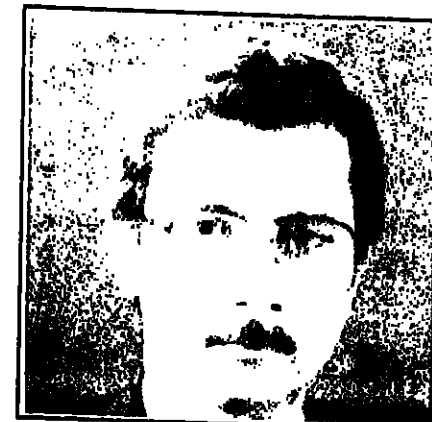
It might prove more logical and sensible for an observer to treat the rapid pace of development and change in this world since the end of the Second World War, as a general tendency. This tendency, which gained, by time, the momentum of a self-automated process, had its roots in the natural human tendency towards creativity, achievement, exploration and change. Such a process has recently become a self-generating micro-chip opening needed horizons as well as unneeded ones. This rendered the mental faculty of a human being supreme to its physical counterpart. It also, reflected negatively on the ability of the ordinary individual to identify, let alone adapt, to the swift changes taking place in all aspects of life in this world.

Thus, we are witnessing, nowadays, a new breed of super human beings in terms of their mental faculties and abilities to handle new super-tech. In retrospect, a new form of social and political relations was destined to emerge at the expense of the fast diminishing traditional order as we know it.

The creation of new orders through such means as ideologies, revolutions and wars has characterised the history of this world. The innovation came, however, through the use of technology as a tool dedicated to the creation of a new or-

der. The beginning of such a process was rather recent and limited to the superpowers who inherited the world after the Second World War and who utilised, in due process, all the technological developments enforced on them as part of the war effort during that war.

The West, under the leadership of the USA, employed such achievements in the civilian life and thus moved swiftly up the technological ladder in all areas and aspects of life, while the East, under the leadership of the USSR, drew a sharp line between the technological achievements in the military field and the civilian field and kept such achievements as top military secret of the state. They even subdued and used the civilian economy to support and finance the military technology which eventually proved to be catastrophic to their respective economies as it led to the depletion of their resources without any input into the civilian economy in terms of technological improvements or innovations in the modes of production. This eventually led to a general economic stagnation and collapses which were translated into human sufferings and poverty. The result was manifested in bigger and more visible gaps between generations which took a violent form in advanced so-



drastically different from what we know or to which we are accustomed.

Future changes are expected to cover the social, political and economic relations existing in this world. Informatics, which is an aspect of hi-tech, has practically unified this world through super mobility and the exposure and immediate access by people to information. Physical contact between people would, therefore, become less important as a means towards communication and interaction. Informatics which has also universalised problems, achievements, as well as aspirations, might probably make privacy a historical and obsolete concept.

The ability of the individual to maintain a level of privacy would be severely curtailed since all information pertaining to any individual would eventually be computerised and, therefore, accessible by others. In spite of this, individualism might characterise the future. National sentiment might, therefore, be replaced with individualism that is based on universalism rather than nationalism.

In this context, the concept of national sovereignty would perhaps diminish to the benefit of universality where one would identify with a hi-tech, economically-oriented political super structure. The very near future might witness the reshaping of the political map of this world on

new basis. The ideological basis might be replaced by super-tech economic basis. Political alliances might, thus, be replaced by super-tech economic alliances as the basis of the new political order in the world. Social relations will be a function of the new order. Social classes in the Marxist sense might be replaced with a new type of classes. The new class structure might be based on technological attainment and ability to handle super-tech. People with similar technological background and abilities might identify with each other irrespective of their origin or background and probably without seeing each other.

People might be classified according to their scientific status and hi-tech skills and societies might, thus, be stratified along those lines: i.e. the ones who know and the ones who do not know. Personal wealth might become relative. Indirect and attainable through identification with the economic super structures. Such super structures might probably replace man as the nucleus of the new social, economic and political order in the world. In the near future, we might witness the emergence of a super-tech socio-economic theory with its own dialectics to replace current theories like Marxism and Capitalism.

View Point

by
Yacoub Jaber

Time for Syrian-Iraqi-PLO reconciliation

THE SUMMIT of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC), due to convene in Amman on Saturday, 24 February will concentrate on joint co-operation among the four member-states. Much has been achieved in the past year but a great deal is yet to be accomplished to make the Council stand on solid ground in serving the common interests of the four countries.

The summit, however, will certainly discuss policy matters in light of the dramatic grassroots changes which have taken place in the world around us. The Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel is expected to figure highly on the agenda of the four leaders because of the grave dangers it poses to the entire Arab order.

Jordan is the prime target of the Soviet Jewish influx after the Palestinians. Once those tens of thousands of immigrants are settled in the occupied territories, a very dangerous phase will begin in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, involving the very national security of Jordan in the first place and the Arab world at large.

Unless a peace settlement is reached in the near future, a solution to the conflict will become very hard to achieve after a few hundred thousands immigrants are settled in the occupied territories. Israel, as Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has bluntly put it, needs the occupied territories to make room for the newcomers.

After that, Israel will need more land to accommodate a new wave of immigrants. It may then be in a position to launch its much publicised plan of finding a "substitute" homeland for the displaced Palestinians.

This scenario is far from being an illusion because it fits in with the very aggressive nature of Israel. A peace settlement at present looks as evasive as ever because of the US vacillation and the Soviet Union's apparent unwillingness to play a constructive role by suspending the flow of emigrants.

The future looks gloomy and ominous indeed unless rapid and effective steps are taken to contain the coming danger.

The four Arab leaders meeting in Amman next week have a clear picture of what is being hatched up against the Arabs. His Majesty King Hussein has repeatedly warned against the dangers inherent in massive Jewish immigration.

The most urgent requirement at this stage is perhaps the launching of a very serious attempt to force a reconciliation between Syria, on one hand and Iraq and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) on the other. The three parties together, along with Jordan, can form a powerful front capable not only of defending Arab land but also of influencing the course of events in the region.

Such reconciliation will find a vast popular support in the Arab world and pave the way for a successful expanded Arab summit to decide on a common course of collective action in a newly-shaped world where the weak is ruthlessly trodden and unaccounted for.

A C C : Redefining Strategic Depth

By
Dr. Christine Moss Helms

THE TWO most devoutly pursued political goals of Middle Eastern states since World War II have been Arab unity and independence from colonial powers. Many notable formulations of the former have been tried and found wanting. The Arab League has been the most durable, having survived since its establishment in 1945. It was instrumental in accelerating the second goal of independence - notably a precondition of membership in the League - which eventually was achieved by all the present 22 members of the Arab League except Palestine.

Within the last decade, three well-defined, sub-regional blocs the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) and Arab Union (AMU) - have emerged. These unions differ dramatically from earlier incarnations of Arab unity. They are short on rhetoric, preferring to stress pragmatic economic and political co-ordination. In consequence, they are not hailed as great watersheds of attitudinal change, presaging radical alliance shifts, which is all for the good.

Perhaps most striking is that, between them, they encompass almost the entire geographic entity of the Arab League state system. In the east, the GCC - comprising Qatar, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Oman and Saudi Arabia - found common alliance as early as 1981. The ACC, the second and central cluster, was quickly announced by its members - Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen - on February 16, 1989. It was succeeded only two days later by the announcement of the AMU, whose members are Algeria, Morocco, Libya, Tunisia and Mauritania. States not included in any of these three unions are Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Somalia, Djibouti, the Sudan and South Yemen.

Among these unions, the ACC is perceived to have the greatest potential for social, economic and political clout. Yet, ironically, it is the most anomalous, since inherent differences jeopardise its longevity. Each has vastly different economic and social realities. Iraq, for example, has the best potential for development in the Middle East given its oil and water resources, while Jordan, due to the serendipitous forces of nature and the drawing of boundary lines, has few. Moreover, ACC states confront enormous difficulties relative to other regional groupings. The ACC has the largest population, some 80 million, in contrast with the AMU's 60 million and the GCC's 18 million. At the same time, it has the lowest GNP, \$100 billion in 1987, in contrast with \$110 billion for the AMU and \$150 billion for the GCC. It also has the highest debt, unofficially estimated as \$100 billion or more.

Given these constraints, why is the ACC inexplicably perceived to have such potential? Even an Israeli who analysed Middle Eastern politics observed that "the present Arab political scene

is like a car accident. No one is hurt, but the car is totaled. The ACC is especially important now because it is a harbinger." Why is the ACC, whatever its final denouement, destined to be a marker of evolving Arab politics and a beacon of regional intent even if it is unable to achieve the same level of economic success as the GCC and the AMU which ring its periphery?

The central region of the ACC, with the exception of Yemen, occupies what has always been the geopolitical heart of the Arab world. This is because, while the notion Arab arose in the Arabian peninsula, it was reformulated as a sociopolitical concept in the 19th and 20th centuries in precisely this region. It sits astride a strategic tricontinental node -

Asia, Africa and Europe - characterized by deeply incised waterways that link the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea and the Arabian Gulf. Here too flow the Middle East's three major rivers - the Nile, Tigris and Euphrates - providing a continuous supply of a scarce and increasingly valuable re-

During the war, ACC states shared nearly identical concern about "Iranian expansionism in all its forms - religious, political and ethnic."

The ACC's resolve to fill a political void in the absence of Arab consensus remains even after the death of Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini for a variety of reasons. One is the perceived importance of operating as a bloc

ationale. The avowed raison d'être for union was economic, yet there is remarkably little evidence that anything more than a wish list, if that, ever existed. Potential areas of co-operation - financial, manpower training and labor exchange, industrial and military production - will probably remain on an abstract level for the near future. This is partly due to the irony that, while ACC

leaders are familiar with the political situation of fellow members, there is relatively little knowledge among their general populations of the social realities or economic potential of any other. It is estimated that only 5 per cent of ACC trade is conducted among its members, even though they hope to double this figure within five years.

It is a further irony that it is precisely this economic rationale that is the ACC's Achilles' heel, since the onus has now been created for these already beleaguered states to produce concrete results. The areas that have been most discussed, at least publicly, are the least contentious and therefore perhaps

in any economic or political forum, especially when old formulas for accommodating pluralism are seen as inadequate. Indeed, the earlier Steadfastness Front had disintegrated during the war as Syria's President Hafez Al Assad, deliberately or perforce, became increasingly isolated and

Among these unions, the ACC is perceived to have the greatest potential for social, economic and political clout. Yet, ironically, it is the most anomalous, since inherent differences jeopardise its longevity.

source as the region's population continues to burgeon at a rate of more than 3.5 percent annually. The location of this node and its resources has facilitated patterns of human exchange for centuries. It is not accidental that the early Islamic community moved north out of the peninsula and flourished in the cities of modern Egypt, Syria and Iraq.

Moreover, Arabism took its distinct flavor from this region's traditional political structures and historical memory. The tricontinental node was and is the Arab Sunni core of the Middle East, an area renowned for its social, political and economic elite. It is no coincidence that four of the seven original signatories of the Arab League in 1945 comprise the membership of the ACC in 1989.

Forging a Political Community

There is general agreement among ACC members that, while each had their own political and economic motives for their alliance, the primary rationale was "to forge a political community after the Iran-Iraq war... to redefine strategic depth in its broadest terms." In essence, the war created not only a pretext, but the formula for dialogue.

The Economic Pretext

Ironically, ACC members went out of their way to forswear publicly any political ra-

It is doubtful that Yemen will be a market for labour since it too has workers returning from the Gulf, although it does need technical assistance, improved civil service training and administrative reform. There is even some doubt about whether Iraq

will continue to absorb outside labour, since it is now beginning to release men who had been conscripted by the military during the war.

There has also been some talk of a mutual defence pact among the leaders of the ACC, but it is unclear whether and to what extent this has developed. Certainly, one area of expected is military production, a field in which Egypt and Iraq have already participated in joint projects such as short-range missiles, shells and shell casings, and small arms. Egypt's experience in tank and aircraft production is also valuable, and may have applicability for non-military purposes, such as weather aircraft. However, it is just as likely that a debate will ensue over the internal and external climate that affects their individual threat assessments, export possibilities and extent of scarce resources to devote to such project.

That there appears, however, to be seriousness of intent is seen in the appointment of the Egyptian Dr. Helmi Nammur, reputedly an efficient and tough-minded technocrat, as the ACC's secretary general. Moreover, some believe that if a realistic analysis is made of the long-term debts and credits of each economy and areas where mutuality of interest and complementarity are determined, substantial benefits could accrue.

For example, Egypt's debt is estimated to be \$45 billion to \$50 billion; Iraq's is \$40 billion, mainly financial support from the GCC states during the war; Jordan's is \$8 billion and Yemen's is \$4 billion to \$5 billion. How can they convert material resources or skills into something of value? Can they implement policies of import substitution and export expansion to keep their debt low? How can dis-equilibrium in energy consumption and production facilitate other areas of co-operation? Moreover, each of these countries has had diverse global ties economically and politically. To what extent can the ACC maximise the benefits of them?

Today, the formation of the ACC, GCC and AMU gives proof that the Middle East's nation-state system is alive and well. This is critical because a variety of dilemmas - diminishing water resources, debt, environmental degradation, inappropriate manpower and educational policies, population growth, and intensified migration from rural to urban areas - have provided fertile ground for discontent among the region's increasingly youthful population.

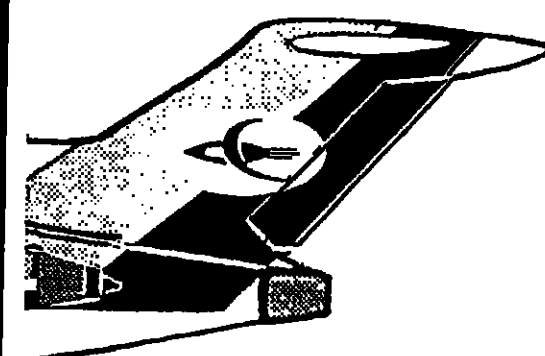
These new sub-regional alliances need not diminish the important role of the Arab League as a forum, but the fact that they may be more creative, flexible and non-binding gives them a pragmatic edge. If they can address more effectively the region's social and economic challenges, they will re-affirm a common aphorism. Namely, nothing breeds success like success, and that political legitimacy - a precious commodity - will trail in the wake of their efforts.

Welcome to His Majesty's Guests



شركة الخطوط الجوية العراقية
Iraqi Airways Co.

and



Yemenia

Yemen Airways

اليمنية

الخطوط الجوية اليمنية

More than a choice

أكثر من اختيار

General Agents
Grand For Travel and Tourism
welcome

President Saddam Hussein
President of Iraqi Republic

President Ali Abdullah Saleh
President of the Arab Republic of Yemen

President Mohammed Husni Mubarak
President of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Guests of
His Majesty King Hussein

And hope that the Arab Co-operation Council will meet the hopes of the
Arab people for unity

22 FEBRUARY 1990

22 FEBRUARY 1990

THE STAR 15

Insight

By Masood Haider
Special to The Star

Unacceptable violations

AT A time when the whole world is heading towards multi-party systems of government, and when totalitarian regimes have crumbled one after the other like sand castles on the beach, news reports coming out of Sudan have indicated that the military rulers have decided to establish a one-party system of government in that long-suffering Arab country.

As if that was not enough, more worrying news items have come out of Sudan in the last few days. According to reports published in the Egyptian Arabic weekly 'Al-Ahali', the military leaders of Sudan are imposing a policy of detention without trial, and torture of civil leaders and heads of professional associations. More than 60 leading Sudanese personalities have undergone severe torture according to medical reports smuggled out of Cooper military prison in Khartoum.

The military government of Sudan is able to press on with these horrifying violations of human rights because it is functioning in a situation where there is no accountability what so ever: A state of emergency is still in effect, dusk-to-dawn curfew is still imposed on the major cities, the constitution is dissolved. Political parties are outlawed, and the opposition is silenced by violence and intimidation.

This situation of oppression and negation of civil freedoms should not be allowed to continue in Sudan. All efforts should be taken to pressure the military leadership in Sudan into doing the universal march towards liberalisation and freedom before it is too late. The Sudanese people have always taken pride in the fact that they were in the forefront of the enlightenment and intellectual enrichment movement in the Arab World. It remains to be seen if the heroic people of Sudan will be allowed to regain their rightful position in the Arab march towards freedom.

Arabs who love Sudan and love freedom should interfere immediately to restore the lost liberation in Sudan, and to redeem the proud and free identity of that suffering Arab country.

Jewish poll gravitates towards the PLO

By Masood Haider
Special to The Star

NEW YORK - Seventy-four per cent of Jewish leaders in the United States favour private talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation's "moderates." A poll of officials in major Jewish community, religious and philanthropic agencies throughout the United States, conducted by Steven M. Cohen, a sociologist at Queens College of the City University of New York, asserts that US Jewish leaders feel that Israel should talk to the PLO.

Although highly distrustful of the PLO, almost as many as 73 per cent approved talks on the condition that the Palestinian group renounce use of violence and recognise the state of Israel. That PLO leader Yasser Arafat already has moved in that direction doesn't seem to have reached America's Jewish community.

More than three-quarters of those who responded opposed annexation of the West Bank,

expansion of Israeli settlements on the West Bank and increased deportation of Palestinian families and individuals from there. Three out of four favoured "territorial compromise in the West Bank and Gaza in return for credible guarantees of peace."

The study, which was conducted by Cohen in sponsorship with the Israel-Diaspora Institute, a Tel Aviv-based public policy centre that deals with relations between Jews in Israel and elsewhere, showed that those polled were torn between their own moderately "dovish" views and their strong conviction that it would be inappropriate or risky to press those views on Israel. However, Arye Carmon, president of the Israel-Diaspora Institute disagreed, saying that the poll showed "not a tendency" but a very clear stand.

The survey's results were released at a time when Jewish critics of Israel's policies have charged that American Jewish opinion on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is not accurately reflect-

ed by the heads of Jewish organisations.

An article in the January-February issue of Present Tense, a magazine published by the American Jewish Committee, a major civil and human rights group, accused the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organisations, an umbrella group of 49 Jewish associations, of supporting "every facet of Israel's hard-line policy," despite differing views of many American Jews.

Of the respondents, between 51 and 67 per cent replied favourably to questions contemplating a Palestinian "state," "homeland," or "sovereignty." Also, 59 per cent agreed that Israel should offer the Palestinians the prospect of a demilitarised state in 15 years, after a gradual buildup of confidence on both sides. For 56 per cent "total demilitarisation of Palestinians" was "essential" to any accord between Israel and Palestinians, while 37 per cent found it "desirable."

On the question of renuncia-

tion of claims by Palestinian refugees to return to parts of Israel that they had left before or during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, 55 per cent stated that renunciation of those claims was essential to an accord, and 27 per cent thought it was desirable.

In the meantime, a first "Convocation for Mideast Peace" is being organised in New York. It will be attended by prominent Israeli, Palestinian, Christian and Muslim leaders. According to Ronald J. Young, executive director of the United States Inter-religious Committee, the importance of the convocation cannot be understated: "The vast majority of our citizens support Israel's right to secure borders and the Palestinians' right to a homeland in the West Bank and Gaza. The significance of this event is that US Jewish, Christian and Muslim leaders are now joining together to express these views in ways that will encourage a much more active US role in pursuit of this vision for peace."

Israeli analysis of peace process:

Shamir may be playing double game

WHILE THE dust is still settling after this week's raucous Likud Central Committee meeting, diplomacy, which had been immobilised by the Likud's internal squabbling, has returned to advancing an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud's ostensible victor, may be playing a double game. For reasons of domestic politics, his interpreters are saying he has been strengthened by Ariel Sharon's resignation, but sources in the Prime Minister's Office told The Jerusalem Post newspaper that US pressure on Shamir right now could play into Sharon's hands.

The US should not push too hard for Israeli concessions on the issues holding up the trilateral foreign ministers' meeting, which is to lead to talks in Cairo between Israel and the Palestinians, the sources said. The trilateral meeting might not take place until mid-March, although the State Department prefers that it takes place later this month.

Portraying Shamir as domestically weakened may thus be a gambit to avoid difficult foreign policy dilemmas. Yet, these dilemmas must be faced. The stakes may even have risen, Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzkov reportedly said yesterday that his country would renew diplomatic ties with Israel once it begins a dialogue with the Palestinians.

So the ritual continues. Some of the resolved issues are:

Deportees: It is likely that Foreign Minister Moshe Arens will agree during his rumoured private meeting with US Secretary of State James Baker next week to the inclusion in the Palestinian delegation of two deportees, who are listed in the current population registry of the territories and have no "terrorist" back-

But some well-connected Labour sources believe Shamir will terminate negotiations before he concedes to the dual residency compromise.

Knowledgeable Likud sources, however, say Shamir will concede on dual residency, but wants a fig leaf. "It should not be so obvious," they said. Spe-

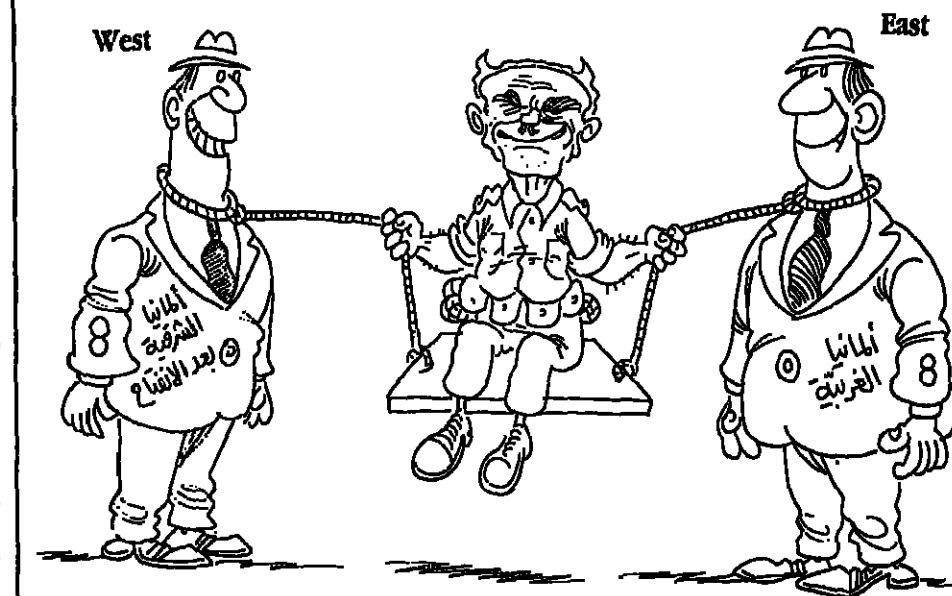
last few days, however, there have been reports of Egyptian-PLO tension. If the US is charged with delivering Israel, Egypt must find a way to deliver the PLO.

Agenda of the talks: Egypt has told the US that the focus of the negotiations themselves will be on West Bank elections, in other words, on the Israeli diplomatic initiative. The issue of the Palestinian delegation takes on even more importance if, as Israeli Health Minister Ya'acov Tsur suggested this week, it might be made the representative Palestinian body for negotiating the interim arrangement envisaged at Camp David.

Tsur, a political confidant of Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, implied the Palestinian delegation might decide to skip the election phase of the government's negotiating initiative of last May. The cancellation of the elections, he said, would be in the Likud's interest because it would eliminate the question of East Jerusalem Arabs. It would

also be in the PLO's interest, because of its concern over the growing power of Islamic fundamentalists in the territories.

In Tunis, meanwhile, Bassam Abu Sharif, a top adviser to Yasser Arafat, has expressed optimism that Middle East diplomatic moves were heading towards a breakthrough. Talks between the US and the Soviet Union and developments in the Israeli government had breathed new life into the peace process, he told Reuters last Wednesday.



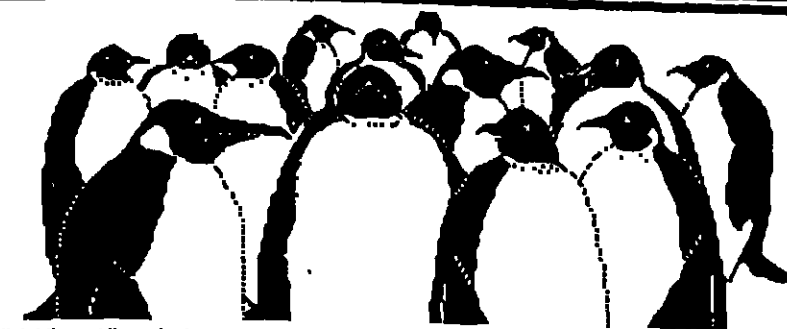
Jalal Rifai Ad-Doustour

ground.

East Jerusalem: Vice Premier Shimon Peres and Interior Minister Aryeh Dori, among others, are astonished that the compromise of including two Palestinians with dual residencies in East Jerusalem and the territories is being depicted by some Likud critics as assenting to the rededication of the capital. "If we agree to negotiations with representatives from Hebron, does this mean we agree to give back Hebron?" Peres asked?

cifically, instead of a known Palestinian figure living in East Jerusalem with a second home in the territories, he would prefer a figure from the territories with a second home in East Jerusalem. This proposal, however, excludes most major Palestinian figures, because they are East Jerusalemites.

Announcing the Palestinian delegation: sources say Egypt has told the US that the PLO is willing to concede to it the right to name the delegation. In the



Around Town

Naming ceremony



● In response to His Majesty King Hussein's concern over the 8-year-old boy Jaafar Issam from Irbid who is need of a cornea transplant in one of his eyes, a Jordanian residing in West Germany has called the Jordan Radio on Monday and announced that a well-known German ophthalmic doctor has offered to supply the cornea and perform the surgery for free. The King has expressed his appreciation of expatriate Jordanian Doctor Butros Habib Al Taweel and the German eye Doctor Boose Hlofere (sic) for their initiative. King Hussein has also expressed his readiness to finance the boy's travel and accommodation expenses. Petra news agency reported

that Jordan Radio received numerous calls from Jordanians in and outside the country who made financial contributions and donated their corneas to the Jordan Eye Bank.

Dr Al Taweel also announced that a special bank account will be opening a German bank to enable Jordanians living in West Germany to donate money to cover medication costs for Jaafar.

A Jordanian living in West Germany had called the radio station and made a contribution of DM 5000 for the same purpose.

King Hussein had earlier announced that he will be donating his corneas to the Eye Bank (after a long life) and was followed

by Prime Minister Mr Mudar Badran.

● Jordan Trade Association's (JTA) Director Mr Halim Abu Rahma has visited Jakarta, Indonesia, to discuss ways to promote trade co-operation between the two countries. Jordan is interested in exporting its products while importing raw material from that Asian country. JTA will try to organise a commercial exhibit in Jakarta or invite Jordanian traders to visit Indonesia to build business relations with their counterparts.

● The art exhibition currently held by Jordanian artists Alia Amoura, Nabila Hilmi and Nawal Abdullah at Abdel Hamid Shouman Foundation will today, Thursday, be open to the public until 8 a.m.

● The ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr Chang Dh Ling held a reception at the Chinese embassy Tuesday on the occasion of his appointment to Jordan. Mr and Mrs Ling played hosts to a large gathering of diplomats, officials, businessmen and friends.

Wedlock

- ★ Reem Tashman to Sami Sweidan
- ★ Dina Zeltawi to Eld Abu Oleim
- ★ Ilham Shbelle to Hafei Umoush
- ★ Lina Maitar to Hamdi Tamoush
- ★ Wafa Al Sarafji to Lutfi Al Mouniani
- ★ Tagrid Qdeisat to Mohammad Mhailan
- ★ Lina Haddadin to Rajal Sayegh

Scrapbook

The difficult choice

WHEN MY six-year-old daughter asked me a couple of days ago what perestroika meant, I knew that the age of reform has finally knocked down my doors, and is now, inside the house polluting the minds of innocent children and naive boys and girls. I was the final target, I told myself, as I tried to answer my daughter without implicating myself or my generation.

I said: Perestroika is a Russian word, whose clear meaning is still vague to us. Some say it means re-structuring or rebuilding while others believe it is the Russian equivalent for the Arabic phrase 'sorry about wasting the last few decades of life, but I am sure things will get better as soon as we start again from the very beginning.'

My daughter left me not quite convinced of this explanation. But I told myself that she has a lifetime to learn the exact meaning of imported foreign words. I, for one, was happy and content with slogans of the past. My idea of a good time was to sit and read a book about bygone glories and future hopes. I am a product of the late fifties, early sixties, when we knew very little about the world around us. So we were subjected to great political experiments; polarised, institutionalised, classified, socialised, capitalised, communised, Arabised, Latinised... etc.

So now we have to cope again after so many years with yet more foreign ideas like democracy, perestroika and glasnost. By the time we get the hang of things, the world would have changed yet a third or fourth time and we would be subjected to a new wave of so-called reforms. No sir, I had enough and it is time I settled down and looked after myself.

The future generations, symbolised in my daughter and her classmates, will have to journey alone into the brave new world that is unfolding. They might be more fortunate than we were and find a system they can be happy with... or waste their lives trying this and that and be, in the end, followers and not leaders. The choice could be theirs... but I won't bet on it.

Samar A. Hidijsi



18th Rothmans Cyprus rally brought forward

● The date of the 18th Rothmans Cyprus Rally has been brought forward by one week to 21-23 September. The event has been re-scheduled as part of the celebrations running up to the 30th anniversary of Cyprus independence on 1 October.

The brochures for this final co-efficient 20 round of the European Championship have been despatched to drivers and teams around the world and the Clerk of the Course, Takis Kyriakides, said in Nicosia that this year's event is expected to attract the largest contingent of overseas competitors to date.

In addition to the European title, the 18th Rothmans Cyprus Rally is a qualifier for the European Cup for non-seeded drivers, the co-drivers' cup and the ladies' cup - as well as Cyprus' own Rothmans-CAA Rally Championships and other national championships.

To assist foreign drivers in their preparations, the route has been kept very close to that of last year. It will be approximately 870 kilometres in length and will have 22 special stages - in-

cluding a 'super-special' - making up just under 45% of the total.

The route is divided into four legs and the rally will start and finish in Nicosia. It will go to all the major towns, across the Troodos mountains, along the seashore and through some of Cyprus' most spectacular scenery.

The organisers are negotiating special travel and accommodation rates for visitors to the 18th Rothmans Cyprus Rally so that competitors and teams can bring families and friends for a Mediterranean holiday combined with the rally.

Congratulations! Graduations, appointments, engagements, weddings, newborns, promotions, special awards, excellent achievements....

Drop us a line and send a photo... we will run it free of charge in The Star's People and Events page.



Boston University Professor receives Egyptian-American Award

BOSTON - Dr Farouk El-Baz, director of the Boston University Center for Remote Sensing, was recently honoured as "The Egyptian-American Person of the Year" by the Egyptian-American Organisation. Established in 1984, the organisation promotes understanding and cooperation between Egypt and the United States.

At a ceremony attended by nearly 500 people last month at the Sheraton Redondo Beach in Los Angeles, Calif., El-Baz was recognised for his scientific research and scholarship in fields ranging from space photography to dry lands. During the ceremony El-Baz discussed findings from his recent exploration of the Egyptian deserts and their relation to the development of groundwater resources.

El-Baz is an internationally known expert on space photography, a field in which he pioneered. He participated in the selection of lunar landing sites for NASA's Apollo missions as the supervisor of Lunar Science Planning and Operations.

In 1973 El-Baz founded the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Earth and Planetary Studies; he directed the center for ten years. He has taught at Assiut University in Egypt and Heidelberg University in Germany and joined Boston University in 1986.

His current work includes research on world deserts using images taken from spacecrafts. He is coordinating an effort by the Third World Academy of Science to increase the scientific study of the earth's drylands.

He is the recipient of many honours and awards, including the Arab Republic of Egypt Order of Merit-First Class, NASA's Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal, and an honorary doctorate from New England College.



Mr and Mrs Majed Khalil, General Manager of Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental held a dinner banquet at the Crown Rollserie in honour of the Irish travel agents delegation currently on a visit to Jordan to promote Jordan's historic sites and to encourage Irish tourists to visit Jordan.

FOR RENT

Deluxe villa consisting of 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 salons & a fireplace, 1 dining room, 2 kitchens (fully equipped), 1 living room, 2 balconies, a maid room with a spa/lai landscaped garden.

Area:- El-Hommar, Paradise City.
For more information please call 671501, 671502.

1990: The de Gaulle year

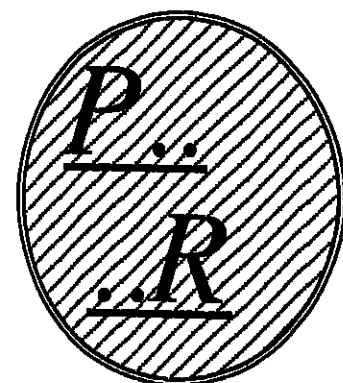
FEW MEN have marked the history of France as much as Charles de Gaulle. In 30 years of public life, he saved the country from the Nazi invader (1940-45), renewed the institutions of the Republic (1958) and introduced a bold and vigorous international policy (1958-69) putting France back in a strong position on a world level. And he achieved all that amid the most extraordinary exterior and interior turmoil, storms and dangers. De Gaulle had a character, a will and a broadness of thought which made him the key person of modern France.

So 1990, which will simultaneously mark the hundredth anniversary of the great man's birth on 22 November 1890, the 50th anniversary of the call of the 18 June 1940 and also the 20th anniversary of his death on 9th November 1970, will be "De Gaulle Year." Numerous events

scribe the life of General de Gaulle using the most modern and most popular of the media, the comic strip.

The 9th November is the date of General de Gaulle's death, just twenty years ago. Every year, his death is honoured on that date by the Compagnons de la Libération. In 1990, it will be honoured with particular solemnity. After

mass, celebrated at Saint-Louis des Invalides church, a special train will take the general's companions and faithful followers to Colombey where, not far from his house, "la Boisserie" (which has become a museum today), stands a huge Lorraine cross, perpetuating the memory of General de Gaulle and his action in the service of France.



NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN Italy and the United States ended in the American Embassy in Rome on Thursday 9 February when the Italian and American delegations reached a bilateral agreement on air transportation between the two countries.

The agreement which regards passenger traffic between Italy and the United States and which will be signed in Rome as soon as both sides have completed the necessary formalities for its approval gives Alitalia the right to choose 5 new US destinations on which to operate services.

These new routes will be introduced gradually from November this year and are in addition to the 8 US destinations on which Alitalia already operates New York, Washington, Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit, San Francisco, Boston and Philadelphia.

Under the terms of this agreement three new US carriers will be able to operate flights between US cities and Rome and Milan starting in April 1991. The agreement further gives Alitalia:

Traffic rights - and the possibility of continuing these routes beyond the US destinations either directly or in pool with other carriers.

The possibility of operating Trans-Atlantic flights with stopovers and traffic rights in European countries of its choice.

The possibility of using Combi aircraft on these services.

Alitalia's managing director Giovanni Bisignani said "this agreement is of major importance to Italy's flag-carrier as it will allow us to put the synergies of our fleet to the best possible use and is in line with the strategy of internationalisation adopted by our company which in this initial stage is aimed at strengthening our presence in the United States market."

Video Rentals

Latest video arrivals as supplied by Video House Amman, Tel: 642541

- Harlem Nights / Eddie Murphy & Richard Pryor
- Back to the Future / Michael J. Fox & Christopher Lloyd
- Johnny Handsome / Mickey Rourke
- The Bear / Tcheky Karyo
- Look Who's Talking / John Travolta & Kirstie Alley
- Sea of Love / Al Pacino & Ellen Barkin

Agenda

Films

● The British Council presents the video film "Porterhouse Blue," Tuesday 27 February at 5:00 pm.

● The American Center presents the feature film "Sophie's Choice", starring Meryl Streep, Kevin Kline and Peter MacNicol, Thursday 22 February at 7:00 pm.

● The Goethe Institute presents the feature film "Meier" (English subtitled) starring Rainer Grenkowitz, Nadja Engelbrecht and Thomas Bestvater, Saturday 24 February at 8:00 pm.

● The French Cultural Centre presents the feature film "Un Fil" starring Joan Pierre Melville and Alain Delon, Monday 26 February at 8:00 pm.

Theatre

● The famous mime artist Nola Rae will present "Bottom of the Garden", based on Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream. Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 February at 4:00 pm at University of Jordan Theater, Monday 26 February at 4:00 pm at Yarmouk University.

Exhibitions

● Amman's Second International Book Fair will run until 1 March. Open daily from 10:00 am to 9:00 pm, at the International Automobile Centre, opposite Jordan University.

Lectures

● Prof. Dr Edgar Knoop will deliver a lecture in English on "Colour, Form and Function," at the Goethe Institute on Tuesday 27 February at 7 pm.

● Dr William D.E. Coulson will give a lecture on "The American School at Athens: Recent Work in Greece, 1987-1989", Monday 26 February at 7:00 pm at ACOR.

Trips

● The Friends of Archaeology will organise a trip to Tikal and Pella on Friday 23 February. Departure at 8:30 am from the Amra Hotel.

What's on at the Marriott

- Wednesdays: Steak Special in the newly reopened Al Wallima Restaurant.
- Thursdays: Mexican Night in Al Mansaf Restaurant. Everyone's favourite Mexican dishes from chile con carne to burritos and fajitas, etc.
- Saturdays: Chinese Night, in Al Mansaf.

Features

RCC : A different role ?

By Vanessa Batrouni
Special to The Star

MR IYAD Qattan, director of the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC), took his position at the RCC on 7 October 1989 and began since then to undertake the task of revitalising a centre that had sadly fallen into quiescence. Since its inauguration in 1983, the seven-million dinar RCC has suffered from initial misconceptions and subsequent mismanagements which have stalled possibly forever its potential as a "first class facility for local and international visual and performing arts, and provider of the necessary technical support and production resources for the creative efforts of Jordanians," (quoted from Ministry of Tourism brochure).

Mr Qattan, a lively, clear thinking manager, elaborated on the problems he inherited with his new appointment, beginning with the unsuitability of the original design. The RCC, a highly sophisticated multi-purpose showcase, was modelled on the western styled, leisure centres with two theatres, one of which was converted to a conference hall to accommodate the Arab Summit, cafe facilities (two bars and a cafe which have never been used), a discotheque, now the studio theatre, one exhibition hall, and a dance studio and large corridors of wasted space.

Culture in the broadest sense is the inherited ideas, values, beliefs and knowledge of a particular nation and Mr Qattan views the purpose of the RCC in this sense rather than in the European view of a cultural complex being solely utilised for the expression of artistic and social pursuits. In his view, culture includes "everything-politics, sciences, arts, education, research and philosophy." Hence, there has been and still is a clash of interest between the purposes for which the RCC was built (i.e. the pursuit of the performing arts) and what Jordan needs (i.e. a centre for its developing culture).

The Centre yearly costs roughly over a quarter of a million to run, 130,000 of which goes to salaries, 60,000 to energy, and 30,000 to maintenance, leaving 10 to 20,000 for activities. These figures indicate that the RCC exists to support an over staffed administration (some of whom cash RCC salaries while working for other institutions).

Here in Amman, Patrick Lama performed a programme that was devoted solely to his own music, so that listeners had time

Moreover, the specialised staff of the centre "were left without any financial or administrative backup from the Ministry of Culture and were thus unable to achieve anything," says Mr Qattan. This reflected itself in a frustrated personnel and an alienated public.

The RCC has also suffered in its short life from an ill-defined government policy as to its real purpose which was left to the mercy of successive directors. Indicative of this confused policy was its transference from the Ministry of Tourism, to Youth, to Culture, to Information and back again to Culture where it now remains.

Mr Qattan began remedying some of these inherited ills by first drawing a policy. A believer in systems rather than personalities, he plans to install a system that will allow the centre to function independently of its directors, ensuring its survival in times of administrative upheaval.

Mr Qattan sees the RCC as a political forum "not for shaping the people's thinking but for bringing them over to think." To help realise this Mr Qattan asked a group of academics, writers, social researchers and politicians to identify 20 main problems in their field and then to design a series of seminars in which these problems can be confronted and discussed.

These seminars, already underway, have attracted the public in large numbers particularly when the subject related to political, social, or economic problems. When questioned as to why the RCC should be fulfilling the purpose of a think tank, Mr Qattan replied that inadequate freedom of independent thought in the universities and schools has left a vacuum that the RCC can

fill by its nature of being centralised, neutral ground. Commending on the lack of constructive encouragement of the performing arts, Mr Qattan says he believes that creative and fine arts could never develop in a proper way without proper intellectual development. He maintains that the RCC is open to any artistic activity. As for the notable lack of indigenous theatre he cites three possible causes, bearing in mind that successful theatre in the Middle East tends to take the form of satirical comedy on political issues. One is that under martial law there was no obvious oppression that would provoke a social reaction. A "gentleman's agreement" to maintain the status quo kept everyone reasonably happy but unprotesting and hence had a dampening effect on all artistic and cultural activities.

Even though Jordan has now achieved a relatively high level of democracy in the region, people are still not convinced that they have the freedom to express themselves. Liberalisation has taken place too fast for systems and people to absorb, he says.



Iyad Qattan

Arab pioneer in music : Patrick Lama

By Ceri Lloyd Jones
Special to The Star



Patrick Lama

PATRICK LAMA, the thoughtful Jerusalem-born composer, beams. He has done all he set out to do here. He has given a recital of his own piano pieces to a Jordanian audience. And more: "they listened and stayed to the end."

A modest achievement, perhaps? Well no, not when such deliberately unsensational modern music comes up face to face with an audience largely unaccustomed to hearing serious modern styles.

There are no dramatic gimmicks here; the "artistic" tossing back of locks of hair, gratuitous pyrotechnics or exotic sound effects. The audience was presented simply with the music, a dense web of sobor melodic threads. Patrick Lama says "I expected the audience to be shocked by my music, or at least to feel that they didn't understand. I didn't even expect people to appreciate it." So when there was a good turnout, and appreciation was indeed shown, he felt more than content.

Here in Amman, Patrick Lama performed a programme that was devoted solely to his own music, so that listeners had time to become accustomed to the complex, rather austere style which approximates in spirit the compositions of Bach or Stravinsky - "strong, serious music" which he holds in high esteem.

Considerable effort goes into Lama's minutes of music. "Faced with that blank sheet of paper I'm very afraid," he says. "Sometimes nothing occurs to me at all, then I get this vague germ of an idea - a purely musical plan. I try it out one way, then alter it constantly until I'm satisfied with it. I try to give each note complete independence."

In respect of the pains which go into each composition, Lama expects a reciprocal concentration from his listeners. His music

needs to be listened to in an intellectual, not an emotional way. He says that people tend to think that music is just for relaxation and suggests that this may be because there is so much facile music around. Unoriginal "pop" music of an indifferent quality proliferates both in Western and Arab countries. Even Mozart, according to Lama, was the composer of music which demands too little of the listener. He says "Mozart is overrated; his music is very simple. I am affected only by solid, strong music." He says that it is up to a small minority of intellectuals to try to counterpoint this popular taste for poor music and to act as a spearhead to introduce new music.

Not being in the business of catering for the masses, then, contemporary composers tend to work in near isolation. Lama feels that he is lucky in this respect; where some of his French composer colleagues never get heard, his Arab identity helps him to stand out from the crowd. He has performed several times in Europe and the United States, also in Abu Dhabi, Morocco and Iraq.

Lama has been asked on several occasions to provide harmonisations of Arabic melodies,

but that he cannot accept: "This really isn't the way forward - it is a muddled compromise between old and new. When I compose I create, not harmonise. People conclude that I don't care about traditional music because I'm using entirely new styles. They are wrong."

Lama, who studied western music initially with his father at the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem and later in Paris, still strongly feels his Palestinian roots. He has published a study of Palestinian folk music, and played compositions that illustrated the Palestinian cause.

"I don't have a homeland I am a Palestinian, but there's no point in dwelling on nostalgia. From the negative I am doing something positive, composing."

Lama does not draw directly on pre-existing Arabic melodies, but recreates an Arabi feel by highlighting traits such as the repetition of notes and the use of grace notes. As he uses the piano, he cannot recreate Arabi scales precisely - the piano having no quarter tones. However, the exploitation of the piano's characteristics and the introduction of new elements like modern chords allowed the evolution of Lama's style.

Dining out...

Granada Hotel & Amigo Nabil Restaurant
Welcome you to a pleasant stay and sumptuous European & Oriental meals.
Located in a quiet yet central area.
1st Circle, Jebel Amman, Tel: 638031 & 622617

La Terrasse Restaurant
Oriental & European meals. Fresh fish daily
For reservations Tel: 662831, 601675
Shmelsani, Amman

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan.
1st Circle, Jebel Amman, near Al-Hilayyah Girls School
Tel: 638031 & 622617
Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel: 638031

MEXICAN FOOD
LUNCH & DINNER
1st & 2nd Circle
Jebel Amman
Tel: 654208
Open For

Alfredo Restaurant
Real Italian Cooking. Fresh Home-made pasta. Excellent quality meat, large selection of wines.
Mecca Street, Tel: 821705

THIS T.V GUIDE is sponsored by

National

T. V sets, Videos, Air Condition Units, Ventilating Fans, Tape Recorders, Washing Machines, Dryers, Radios and other Electrical Appliances.

Ismail Bilbels and Co.

King Hussein St. Tel. 638103/4 Meca St. Tel. 816439 816497

Programmes of Jordan Television from 17 to 23 February



First Among Equals, Friday, 10:20

ENGLISH PROGRAMME

SATURDAY

8:30 - Annie McGuire "The Journey": Annie agrees to take care of her aged former neighbour, Franci, for a few days and winds up driving her to Virginia to help tie up some of her life's loose ends.
9:00 - Good Evening Jordan - The Arabic Coffee: A documentary spotlighting some of the instruments of hospitality, deep rooted in Jordanian culture.
9:30 - Classical music.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - Feature film - A Criminal On The Run: The story of a psychopath who followed the steps of a famous French criminal in the thirties of this century.

SUNDAY

8:30 - Who's the Boss: Angela's activity proves catastrophic to Tony.
9:10 - Women In Politics - Benzer Bhutto: A documentary on women who left... and continue to leave their mark in the world of politics.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - Game Set and Match - Episode 13 (the last one): The suave spy controller Bret Rensselaer has joined Bernard Samson in a last operation to trap the KGB in London. Who will spring the trap and who will be caught?
The end game begins. But the operation goes dramatically wrong, like an earlier one under Rensselaer's control. There is a lethal exchange of fire in a seedy back street, and yet further deaths.

MONDAY

8:30 - Empty Nest (Comedy).
9:10 - Houston - Episode 2 - (Re-run - Mini series): The legend of Texas.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - Midnight Caller - "Watching me, watching you": Devoted to a subject to constant harassment by a psychopath... and leans on Jack Keilman to help her.

TUESDAY

8:30 - Mr Belvedere: Heather goes all the way out to do social work.
9:10 - Goya - Episode 1: The Climbing Pole: A documentary about the life of the Spanish painter Francisco Goya.

20 THE STAR

10:00 - News in English.

10:20 - Hunter - Investment in death: a story about drugs and traffickers.

WEDNESDAY

8:30 - The Nut House - "21 Men and a Baby": An infant causes a lot of problems at the Nut House.
9:10 - Documentary - The Magnum story: The film begins at the annual gathering of the 33 photographers in New York. The film will explore the early published stories and Magnum's growing reputation and membership.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - Final Run. Episode 2.

THURSDAY

8:30 - A Different World: This episode holds a surprise in store for Dwan.
9:10 - NBA Basketball.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - Menu of the Week - The last show, starring Art Carney, Lily Tomlin and Bill Mary. An aging private eye in Los Angeles finds that his ex-partner's death and lost cat have a complex connection.

FRIDAY

8:30 - Coach: This episode focuses on the importance of family ties.
9:10 - Thirtysomething - Deliverance: The group discovers some things about themselves when the girls go camping and the men stay home with the children.
10:00 - News in English.
10:20 - First Among Equals - last episode: The House of Commons is packed for the emergency debate which follows the alarming news. And Defence Minister Simon Kerrlake details the actions of a band of guerrillas who have taken the crew hostage and are demanding the release of all their countrymen held in British jails.

FRENCH PROGRAMMES

SATURDAY

5:30 - Le Monde Est a Vous: A variety programme presented by Jacques Martin featuring Sylvie Vartan.

SUNDAY

5:00 - Des Chiffres et Des Lettres: A game show programme.
5:30 - La Tenaille: A French film.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - A - documentary Programme.

7:00 - News in French.

7:15 - Sauvage et beau. A documentary programme about the animals.

SUNDAY

6:00 - Tel Pere Tel Film: In this episode of this drama series, Gerard Paces financial problems.
6:20 - L'ecole Des Fans: A programme for children presented by Jacques Martin. This week's guest is Sylvie Vartan.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - Aujourd'hui en France: A magazine about cultural events in France.

MONDAY

6:00 - Arsene Lupin episode 3: A detective series.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - The weekly Sport Magazine.

TUESDAY

5:30 - Le Ballon Rouge: The story of a little child with his balloon.
6:00 - Des Chiffres Et Des Lettres: A game programme.
6:30 - L'Appart episode 30.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - Aujourd'hui En Jordanie: A local cultural magazine.

WEDNESDAY

6:05 - Adventure Voyage: The adventure of a young man who spent 180 days sailing in the ocean.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - French Varlettes.

THURSDAY

6:00 - Tel Pere Tel Film: A new episode of this drama series entitled Planché Pour Rire.
6:30 - La Chance Aux Chansons: A variety programme featuring Marcel Amont.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - Sceneces a La Une: A documentary programme.

FRIDAY

5:00 - Des Chiffres et Des Lettres: A game show programme.
5:30 - La Tenaille: A French film.
7:00 - News in French.
7:15 - A - documentary Programme.

Hollywood Stars speak

Shirley MacLaine as Madam Sousatzka



EDITOR'S NOTE: Shirley MacLaine is one of Hollywood's true survivors. In her early films like "The Trouble with Harry" and "Around the World in 80 Days," she seemed like just another pretty face. But with "Some Came Running," she proved herself an actress of considerable depth, and that was confirmed with films like "The Apartment" and "Two for the Seesaw."

When her film career slowed in the 1970s, she returned to her roots as a dancer and starred with her own show in Las Vegas and in television specials. In 1983 she made a triumphant screen return in "Terms of Endearment," winning the Oscar for Best Actress.

In recent years she has become a highly successful author of books about her own psychic experiences. Her recent film, "Madam Sousatzka," marks a turning point in her acting career. She plays an aging, eccentric teacher of piano virtuosos, a role that required her to abandon her customary glamour.

Q: Did you have some pause about playing this lady?

A: Definite pause. How about an eternity pause. It was not just about whether to play this part. It was what it was possibly setting up for the rest of my working career. I decided that she is too wonderful. There are too many wonderful, eccentric character parts out there for me to be worried about my image. My image never really did concern me that much, that's pretty clear. If I was not worried about it in real life, why should I be worried about it in real life.

Q: Well, you can do a glamour part next and show people that you are not as decrepit as you look in that picture.

A: I don't think that they are those good parts, though. The good parts are somewhere in the eccentric category. That is what I am noticing, and I have been drawing in scripts like that. First of all, I did it because I loved her. I just loved her. I had had so many dancing teachers like her. My father's sister was a piano teacher with some aspects of her, but most of my really good ballet teachers were very similar to Sousatzka. I just drew on them.

Q: What is that sense of possessiveness that she has? Is it a sublimation for children that she may not have had?

A: Probably, I think so. I think she made all of her students her children, and she regarded it as a betrayal if they left too soon, and probably a character defect if they would play before they were ready. She would accuse them of commercialism rather than artistic integrity.

I had a teacher in the sixth grade - her name was Miss Masselet. I will never forget her. She scared the Dickens out of me when I was her student. I look back on her now, and she is the one who inspired me to love English literature. She would beat up on everybody in the class - just like Sousatzka.

Q: Would the Madam ever part with a student willingly?

A: I doubt it; not a talented one. I do not think she would even pay any attention to one that she did not think was talented, because her work, her life, her contribution to humanity was developing talented students who could express the masters of the past. You know, she lives in this bubble of time, wearing those old, sort of Carnegie-Hall, crushed velvet skirts. They still had the dust of some Paderesky concert in 1922 or something on them. Her jewelry, her rings, none of it real, but all collected on some trip around the world with her mother on a steamship, very likely. Her veils, those weird veils that she wore were probably from some Bulgarian concert she went to. She lives in the past. She does not really belong to the modern world, but she has such a sense of indomitability that at the end of the day, this is the woman who will survive when the more younger, modern people would sell out. I loved her. I loved the contradictions in her character, and how, basically, she lived for what she believed. Her expression and her way of following through on her beliefs was not always the most sensitive, obviously, but the harshness was inspirational to students who could take it. She probably was preparing them for life. If they could survive her, they could survive anything.

Q: Not much was said about a possible love life that she may have had.

A: That is one of the reasons I wanted to look as I did. If you got into some of the things like life-body lines or good bone structure or a woman who understands how to put on make-up, or if her nails are really manicured, you ask the question, "What does she do on the weekends when the students are not there?" And that would fragment the focus.

There was one shot at the dinner table in candlelight, that wonderful scene where she and the boy play the duet together, and she is jealous of the Twigg character upstairs. The candlelight was extremely flattering. I was going around saying, "Turn off the key light," and "Light me from the side. I need all the help I can get in being eccentric, so I don't have this genuine quality," and "Light me from above."

And I gained 25 pounds so that there would be plenty of devil to light, chins and all. In that scene, that candlelight was extremely flattering, and you began to ask that question, "Hm, I wonder if she has ever had a lover. I wonder what happened. Has she ever been with a man? Has she ever been with one of her students?" You start asking those questions.

| Algeria | 641271/2 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Arab Republic of Yemen | 642381 |
| Australian | 637246/7 |
| Austrian Embassy | 674750 |
| Bahrain | 664148 |
| Belgian | 675683 |
| Canadian | 666124 |
| Chilean | 661336 |
| Cyprus Honorary Cons. | 642653 |
| Czechoslovakian | 665105 |
| Danish Consulate Gen | 622324 |
| Finnish Consulate | 623443 |
| French | 641273/4 |
| German | 689351 |
| German D.R. | 819351/2 |
| Greek | 672331 |
| Hungarian | 674916 |
| Indian | 637262 |
| Iraqi | 63931 |
| Italian | 638185 |
| Consulate Gen. Ireland | 630878 |
| Japanese | 672486/7 |
| Yugoslavian | 665107 |
| Kuwait | 675135/8 |
| Libyan | 666118 |
| Lebanese | 641381 |
| Moroccan | 641451 |
| Netherlands | 637967/825165 |
| Indonesian | 828911 |
| North Korean | 666340 |
| Norwegian Consulate | 637164 |
| Pakistan | 622787 |
| People's Rep. of China | 666139 |
| Philippines | 645161 |
| Polish | 637153 |
| Qatar | 644331/2 |
| Romanian | 667738 |
| Saudi Arabian | 814154 |
| South Korean | 660745/6 |
| Spanish | 622140 |
| Sudanese | 644251/2 |
| Swedish | 669177/9 |
| Swiss | 686416/7 |
| Syrian | 641076 |
| Tunisian | 674307/8 |
| Turkish | 641251 |
| United Arab Emirates | 644369 |
| United Kingdom | 823100 |
| United States of America | 644371 |
| USSR | 641158 |
| Delegation of the EEC | 668191 |
| UNDP | 668171/7 |
| Far East Com. off. (Taiwan) | 669194/8 |
| UNICEF | 671530 |
| Con. of Sri Lanka | 629571 |
| | 645312 |

| Arab Air Cargo | 674191/95 |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Aeroflot | 641510 |
| Air France | 666055/667825 |
| Air India | 675888/9 |
| Air Lanka | 653377/651799 |
| Allitalia | 625203 |
| American Airlines | 669068 |
| Arab Wings | 894484 |
| Australian Airlines | 637380/667028 |
| Balkan Airlines | 665909 |
| British Airways | 641430 |
| China Airlines | 637380 |
| Cathay Pacific | 624363 |
| Egypt Air | 630011 |
| Emirates Airlines | 662141/678321 |
| Chif Air | 653606/656616 |
| Hungarian Airlines | 639295 |
| Iraq Airways | 637827/644036 |
| Japan Air Lines | 628596/628598 |
| K.L.M. | 630879 |
| Korean Airlines | 622175 |
| Kuwait Airlines | 676624/662236 |
| Libyan Arab Airlines | 630144 |
| Malaysian Airlines | 601744 |
| M.A.L.E. | 636104 |
| Olympic | 630125/638433 |
| Philippine Airlines | 625981 |
| Qatar Airways | 670155 |
| Qatar Airways | 625981 |
| Royal Jordanian | 641430/655447 |
| Sabena Belgian Airlines | 675888 |
| Saudia | 639333 |
| Singapore Airlines | 604649 |
| Sri Lanka Airlines | 662117 |
| Swire Air (U.S.A.) | 642943 |
| Taiwan Air | 629831 |
| Turkish Airlines | 622147 |
| Uganda Airways | 604649 |
| Uganda Airways | 659102 |
| Uganda Airways | 628175 |
| Uganda Airways | 604911 |

Queen Alia Airport (08)53200
22 FEBRUARY 1990

Diary

Cultural centres

Royal Cultural Centre . 661026/7
American Centre Library. 641520
French Cultural Centre. 636147/8
Goethe Institute. 637009
Soviet Cultural Centre. 641993
Spanish Cultural Centre. 644203
Turkish Cultural Centre. 639777
Haya Arts Centre. 665195
Hussein Youth City. 667181/5
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.A. 664251
Amman Mun. Library. 815410
Univ. of Jordan Library. 834555

Cinemas

Concord. 677420
Rainbow. 625155
Opera. 675573
Plaza. 674111
Philadelphia. 634144
Nijoun. 675571

Sports Clubs

Al Hussein Sports City. 667181
Orthodox Club. 810491
Royal Automobile Club. 815410
Royal Shooting Club. 736572
Royal Chess Club. 673713

Hotels

Shakhshir. 668958
Al-Jabal. 606669
Kada. 665161/665153
Al-Labadi. 813354
National. 639197/8
Nebo. 816792
Peira. 605501
Rabbit Amman. 672424
Al-Rimal. 639861
Al-Samer. 771707
Satelite. 625767/621471
Star. 604904
Tiger. 671931
Trust. 673312
Al-Waha. 641076
Abu Degge. 644642/644906
Amin Jarrar (Avis). 674048
Amman. 666323
Arabian. 641350
Avis-Jarrar. 0851000
Hudjet. 604320
Dofas. 669970
Dirami. 660601
Europcar. 601350/80
General Services. 674100
Gulf. 660902

Hotels

Amman
Philadelphia. 663100
Marriott. 660100
Regency. 660000
Jornalein. 665094
Intercontinental. 641361
Ambassador. 665186
Commodors. 665181
Middle East. 667150
Grand Palace. 661121
Tyche. 661112
International. 661114
San Rock. 813801
Alia Gateway. (08) 51000
Amra. 815071
Plaza. 674111

Aqaba

Holiday. 2426
Al-Marar. 4341
Al-Cazar. 4131
Coral Beach. 3521
Aqamarina. 4333
Aqaba. 2056

Emergencies

Amman governorate. 91228
Amman Civil Defence. 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid. 271292
Civil Defence Dept. 661111
Ambulance. 193, 775111
Amman fire brigade. 198
First aid. 630341
Blood Bank. 775121
Civil Defence rescue. 630341
Police rescue. 621111, 637777
Police headquarters. 639141
Traffic police. 896390
Electric Power Co. 636381/4
Water complaints. 897467
Queen Alia Airport. (08) 53200
RJ Flight Info. (08) 53200

Hospitals

Hussein Medical Centre. 813813
Khalidi Maternity. 644281/6
Akhel Maternity. 642141/2
Jabal Amman Maternity. 642362
Malhas, J. Amman. 636141
Palestine, Shmeisani. 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital. 669131
University Hospital. 845845
Al-Munsher Hospital. 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali. 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali. 664164/6
Italian-Al-Muhajreen. 777101/3
Al-Bashir, Ashrafieh. 775111/26
Army, Marka. 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital. 602240/50
Amal Hospital. 674155

General

Jordan Television. 773111/19
Radio Jordan. 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism. 642311
Hotel complaints. 605800
Price complaints. 661176
Telephone Information. 121
Jordan and Middle East calls. 10
Repair service. 623101

Museums

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. year round. Tel 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al-Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries, and a collection of paintings by 19th century Orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Welbach. Hours 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Churches

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Welbach. Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661757.

Terrasanta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Welbach, miss in Italian every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. Tel. 623541.

Church of the Redeemer: Jabal Amman. Tel. 625383.

Armenian Orthodox Church: Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church: (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 827981

Church of the Good Shepherd: (Evangelical Lutheran) Um As-Summaq Tel. 811295.

The Star

Editorial & advertising telephone number: 648298

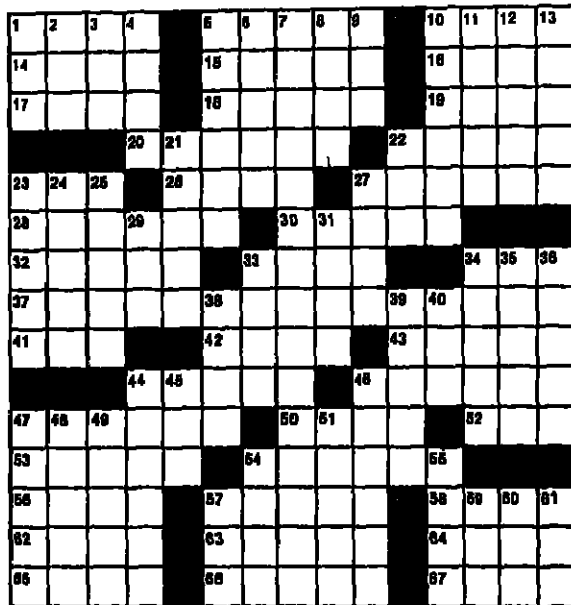
Distribution: Jordan Distribution Agency, telephone: 630191

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|--|-----|-------------------------|-----|-------------------|-----|
| Algeria..... | 213 | Paris 1 | | Amsterdam 20 | | Marbella 52 | |
| Argentina..... | 54 | Germany W(FRG)..... | 49 | Rotterdam 10 | | Majorca 71 | |
| Buenos Aires 1 | | Bonn 238 | | North Yemen..... | 967 | Sri Lanka..... | 94 |
| Australia..... | 61 | Greece..... | 30 | Al Bayda 6 | | Colombo 1 | |
| Adelaide 8 | | Athens/Piraeus 1 | | Hodeidah 3 | | Sudan..... | 249 |
| Brisbane 7 | | India..... | 91 | Sanaa 5 | | Khartoum 11 | |
| Canberra 62 | | Bangalore 812 | | Taiz 4 | | Sweden..... | 46 |
| Melbourne 3 | | New Delhi 11 | | Nigeria..... | 234 | Stockholm 8 | |
| Perth 9 | | Bombay 22 | | Lagos 1 | | Syria..... | 963 |
| Sydney 2 | | And all cities with area codes be- ginning with 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, & 8. | | Norway..... | 47 | Damascus 11 | |
| Austria..... | 43 | Indonesia..... | 62 | Oelo 2 | | Taiwan..... | 886 |
| Vienna 222 | | Jakarta 21 | | Oman..... | 968 | Taipei 2 | |
| Bahrain..... | 973 | Italy..... | 39 | Pakistan..... | 92 | Thailand..... | 66 |
| Belgium..... | 32 | Rome 6 | | Karachi 21 | | Bangkok 2 | |
| Antwerp 3 | | Iraq..... | 964 | Lahore 42 | | Tunisia..... | 216 |
| Brussels 2 | | Baghdad 1 | | Peshawar 521 | | Tunis 1 | |
| Brazil..... | 55 | Japan..... | 81 | Rawalpindi/Islamabad 51 | | Turkey..... | 90 |
| Rio de Janeiro 21 | | Tokyo 3 | | Paraguay..... | 595 | Ankara 41 | |
| Brazilia 61 | | Kenya..... | 254 | Asuncion 54 | | Istanbul 1 | |
| Bulgaria..... | 359 | Nairobi 2 | | Peru..... | 51 | UAE..... | 971 |
| Sofia 2 | | Kuwait..... | 965 | Lima 14 | | Abu Dhabi 2 | |
| Canada..... | 1 | Korea..... | 82 | Philippines..... | 63 | Ajman 6 | |
| Ottawa 613 | | Seoul 2 | | Kuala Lumpur 3 | | Al Ain 3 | |
| Chile..... | 56 | Libya..... | 218 | Poland..... | 48 | Dubai..... | |
| Saniago 2 | | Tripoli 21 | | Warsaw 22 | | Fujairah 70 | |
| Cyprus..... | 357 | Lebanon..... | 961 | Qatar..... | 974 | Ghathi 52 | |
| Nicosia 21 | | Bahrain..... | 965 | Romania..... | 40 | Ras al Khaimah 77 | |
| Czechoslovakia..... | 42 | Bekrut 1 | | Bucharest 0 | | Sharjah 6 | |
| Prague 2 | | Malaysia..... | 60 | Saudi Arabia..... | 966 | Umm Al Quwain 6 | |
| Denmark..... | 45 | Mexico..... | 52 | Al-khobar 3 | | UK..... | |
| Copenhagen (Inner) 1 | | Mexico City 5 | | Al-Madina 4 | | London 1 | |
| Copenhagen (Outer) 2 | | Morocco..... | 212 | Dammam 3 | | Uruguay..... | 598 |
| Ecuador..... | 593 | Peru..... | 51 | Jeddah 2 | | Montevideo 2 | |
| Quito 2 | | Rabat 7 | | Mecoa 2 | | USA..... | |
| Egypt..... | 20 | Netherlands..... | 31 | Riyadh 1 | | New York 212/718 | |
| Cairo 2 | | Neatherlands..... | 31 | Spain..... | 34 | Washington 202 | |
| Biro..... | 353 | | | Barcelona 3 | | USSR..... | |
| Dublin 1 | | | | Madrid 1 | | Moscow 095 | |
| Cork 21 | | | | | | Venezuela..... | 58 |
| Finland..... | 358 | | | | | Caracas 2 | |
| Helsinki 0 | | | | | | Yugoslavia..... | 38 |
| France..... | 33 | | | | | | |

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Cumberbund
- 5 Measuring device
- 10 Hoodlum
- 14 Entrasty
- 16 Distribute
- 18 Top-notch
- 17 Specific time period
- 18 A Gorbachev
- 19 — and switch
- 20 Purpose
- 22 Cuban patriot
- 23 Couple
- 26 Quince s.g.
- 27 Make tough
- 28 Hockey player
- 30 " — to the wile"
- 32 Church section
- 33 Upstart
- 34 — de deux
- 37 Far from 7D
- 41 Sixth sense
- 42 BPOE word
- 43 Charley follower
- 44 Uniform color
- 46 Evergreen shrub
- 47 Redeemer
- 50 Stuff
- 52 At this time
- 53 Type size
- 54 Hans Brinker's prize
- 56 Catalogue
- 57 Enamel
- 58 Melody
- 62 After class and play
- 63 Affect slightly
- 64 Stack of hay
- 65 Slippery —
- 66 Horatio —
- 67 Think tank output

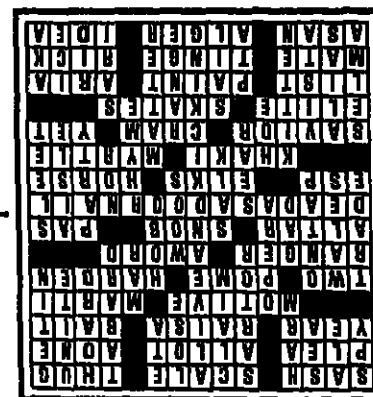


© 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All Rights Reserved

DOWN

- 1 Double agent
- 2 Porter
- 3 Buoy's place
- 4 Injure
- 6 Toga tailor?
- 8 Profess
- 7 Full of energy
- 8 Forfeit
- 9 Or, letter
- 10 Knight's unit
- 11 Cache
- 12 John
- 13 Find access
- 21 La Scala offering
- 22 Disfigure
- 23 Exchange
- 24 Prince of —
- 25 Ready for use
- 27 Vagrant
- 29 Roam about
- 31 Courts
- 33 Vaccine name
- 34 Shield
- 35 Bridal path?
- 38 Weather phenomenon
- 39 Brand
- 39 Verse feature
- 40 And not
- 44 Feline
- 45 Farm tool
- 46 Problem
- 47 Ala. city
- 48 Pseudonym
- 49 Prospect
- 51 Gamut
- 64 Go to sea
- 55 Hindu garment
- 57 Sch. gp.
- 58 Disenumber
- 60 Cube
- 61 Stuff
- 61 See 48D

Solution



MAGICWORD

HOW TO PLAY: Read the list of words. Look at the puzzle. You'll find these words in all directions — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Draw a circle around each letter of a word found in the puzzle, then write it off the list. Circle it will show a letter has been used but will leave it visible should it also form part of another word. Find the big words first. When letters of all listed words are circled, you'll have the given number of letters left over. They'll spell out your MAGICWORD.

CONSUMER REPORTS (Sol.: 11 letters)
A—Articles, Audio, Autos; B—Brand, Budget, Buyer, Buying guide; C—Camcorders, Category, Check, Cost; D—Decide, Details, Detergents; E—Expert; F—Facts, Feature, Food; H—Helpful, Honest; I—Index, Issue; J—Judge; L—Learn; M—Model, Money, Mowers; O—Ovens; P—Paints, Prices, Product; R—Rated, Read, Resource, Results, Reviewed; S—Save, Smart; T—Test, Truth, TV sets; U—Used cars

YROGETACSTLUSER
STNEGTEDECI DE
STESVTSKUUDOFV
RATEDACSSJORVEI
ERPSVEEBSTMEAE
DEAEHLDOI DUANTW
RSI CCCINDEXSUE
OONI ALUFPLEHHRD
CURTEGDUXBROEE
MRS PBI GTNI PENHT
ACLEARNSYAEYETA
CEGDUJIEBCRUSUI
YFACTSYTNVTBTRL
TSOCTCUDORPOTTS
SREWOMBOMESMRT

Sports Hall of Shame

by Nash & Zullo

BEFORE A 1961 BASKETBALL GAME, THE U. OF UTAH RUNNIN' REDSKINS GAVE COACH JACK GARDNER A BIG BOTTLE OF MILK TO HELP CALM HIS STOMACH. JACK FOUND OUT—TOO LATE—THAT HIS PLAYERS HAD ADDED MILK OF MAGNESIA TO THE BOTTLE.

THAT NIGHT, GARDNER BECAME A FULL-FLEDGED RUNNIN' REDSKIN!



© 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All Rights Reserved

JEANE DIXON'S Your Horoscope



ARIES (21 March - 19 April): Work hard this morning so that you can make a quick getaway this afternoon. Money could be the crux of a personal problem. A college-bound teenager finds a temporary job. Be supportive. You are moving into a more favorable money cycle and can plan a fun vacation. Financial gains come from unusual sources. A long-term relationship will either intensify or come to an end.

TAURUS (20 April - 20 May): Steer clear of a friend or relative's financial schemes. Attending a social function later this week will offer you new business or romantic options. Do not be afraid to take calculated risks. An award or scholarship is on your mind, but an answer is several weeks away. Remember, you cannot be all things to all people. A new friend encourages you to change your lifestyle.

GEMINI (21 May 20 June): Communication with those in authority could be complicated or confusing. Your partner presents you with an interesting ultimatum. A child may turn rebellious for no reason at all. Be patient. A secret supporter promotes your cause. While others are caught up in their emotions, you rely on common sense! You gain new prestige when someone influential makes an exception for you.

CANCER (21 June - 22 July): After a difficult matter is sorted out, you may not be in a position to take further action. A personal relationship puzzles you. Intellectual pursuits enjoy the best influences. Your mate could be overly demanding. Take a fresh approach to an old problem; the solution is easier than you think. The work you do this week will affect your financial and emotional security.

LEO (23 July - 22 Aug.): An invitation that never comes could leave you feeling left out. Stop worrying about things you cannot control. A financial tip from a close friend bears careful investigation. Someone could be misinformed. Be prepared for surprises. A joint investment should prove highly profitable. Romance will sparkle if you take the initiative. Use extra caution if you are driving on a trip this week.

VIRGO (23 Aug. 22 Sept.): Try to be objective about any problems that arise. It is best not to let negative thoughts smoulder. Say what you feel. Others appreciate your honesty. Give a loved one a second chance. It is time to free yourself from past restraints. Choose companions who are understanding and non-judgmental. An elegant member of the opposite sex leads you to change your social plans. Be spontaneous.

LIBRA (23 Sept. - 22 Oct.): A burst of energy and a stroke of good luck brighten your day. The one you adore will applaud your enthusiasm. Look for a way to recycle an old project to make new profits. A short trip could add to your financial resources and provide new opportunities for romance. Look for hidden meanings in messages. You are great at finding out other people's motives. Be discreet.

SCORPIO (23 Oct. - 21 Nov.): It sometimes pays to play innocent; avoid getting involved in a sticky situation. Social plans are subject to change. Domestic disagreements can be averted if you make concessions. Listen carefully to what is being proposed and then add your own good sense. A practical approach is essential. Keep your eyes and ears open. Romance could be just around the corner.

SAGITTARIUS (22 Nov. - 21 Dec.): You could find yourself defending your philosophy of life this week. Refuse to be rattled by someone belligerent. Romance grows more satisfying. Guard your money and valuables. Protect your health at the same time you have fun. Good eating and living habits are essential. You may have to take a breather from romance in order to regain your equilibrium.

CAPRICORN (22 Dec. - 19 Jan.): Moonlighting will bring in extra cash, but could disrupt family life. Your question — "Do I have enough energy?" — is valid. Seek the co-operation of your loved ones in keeping expenses down. If depressing influences dampen your spirits, seek happier companions. Getting together with friends who share your interests will help you recharge your batteries.

AQUARIUS (20 Jan - 18 Feb.): Others will surprise you when they listen approvingly to your ideas. The stakes are high, and you feel appreciated. A telephone call may hold romantic promise. The emphasis today is on domestic pursuits. Get your chores done early to give yourself more time for family fun. Out-of-town visitors spur you to complete a project. Avoid squabbles.

PISCES (19 Feb - 20 March): Expect the unexpected today. Drop-in visitors and mysterious messages are featured. Give yourself extra time to get to appointments. You love to play "devil's advocate" at meetings. A good day to tend to your personal affairs. Look over investment papers and insurance policies. Your unpredictable behaviour is confusing to your friends and family. Offspring may feel hurt. Shape up.

THIS WEEK'S CHILDREN are adventurous, generous and blunt. They say exactly what they think without regard for the consequences. Let these youngsters know that tact can make unpleasant truths much more palatable. Material goods mean little to these roving children. They take frequent trips and prefer to travel light. Although physically strong, these children are not particularly fond of strenuous activities. They prefer using their brains to their brawn. Books are the perfect gift for them.

Comics

calvin and Hobbes

by WATSON

HEE HEE HEE HEE



BUT FOR MY OWN EXAMPLE, I'D NEVER BELIEVE ONE LITTLE KID COULD HAVE SO MUCH BRAINS!

